

THE



TIMES

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Price twenty pence

Education grants reprieved

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The Government has decided, after pressure from Tory "wets", to make substantial concessions to parents and students in planned cuts in student grants.

The minimum student grant of £410 will not now be abolished next year, although its value is expected to be reduced in real terms.

It is understood the proposed savings of nearly £100m in a full year on expenditure on student grants, and fees of £300m, which had originally been agreed by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and the Treasury, have been more than halved.

The increase in the scale of the assumed parental contribution toward the grant will not be as steep as originally proposed, although the parental income scale will probably not be indexed as usual for inflation.

Esso call for all-out strike

The tanker drivers' pay dispute worsened when shop stewards representing 2,000 men recommended an all-out strike, which would affect petrol supplies and oil deliveries to industry.

Workers will vote on the recommendation on Monday and Tuesday.



Third force 'will act within law'

The Rev Ian Paisley seems to be playing down the paramilitary nature of his new third force. At a Belfast press conference he insisted that the group would operate within the law as a support to the RUC by collecting information.

Play with fire sanctioned

The National Theatre production of Aeschylus's Greek trilogy, Oresteia, will be seen with an eight foot torch, burning a naked flame, despite objections by the Greater London Council. Mr Edmund McDermott, the Horseferry Road manager, ruled that the flame is essential to the play.

Interest rates lift sterling

The pound added trading in London at a five-month high of \$1.9365 against a weaker dollar. Investors moved their money into sterling to take full advantage of Britain's high interest rates.

England impress in Test match

Botham and Dillie took four wickets each when England quickly dismissed India for 179 runs in the first Test at Bombay. Gavaskar made 55 and England had scored 15 for the loss of Cochrane by the close of play.

Israel urged to back Europe

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, held urgent talks with Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, to try to prevent an Israeli veto of European participation in the Sinai peace-keeping force. Meanwhile, it was announced that Mr Philip Heath, President Reagan's special envoy, is returning to the Middle East.

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EEC leaders fail to reach summit accord

By Ian Murray and David Spanier

Driven on by Mrs Thatcher, who has been chairing the European summit meeting at Lancaster House in London, EEC government leaders struggled throughout yesterday then failed to reach agreement on reforming the Community's agricultural policy and budget.

All that could be salvaged from the wreckage was an agreement to resubmit the controversial sections of the reform paper to yet another special meeting of foreign ministers.

This meeting, which will probably be held in about a month's time, will arrive to unlock the many conflicting positions of the member countries over the agricultural and budgetary problems. It is likely to take the form of a private meeting in some secluded place rather like the one held at Brocket Hall in Hertfordshire at the start of Britain's current presidency of the European Community.

Mrs Thatcher put on a brave face and told a press conference: "I think we got to grips in a very candid way with the difficult parts of the mandate. There were 20 closely typed pages, with a great deal of detail, and we went over it paragraph by paragraph, to see where we agreed and where we differed. We had two very, very useful days."

The Prime Minister added that she did not account this effort a failure at all—on the contrary, the discussion was more determined than she had ever known at a European Council.

However, the outcome is a severe blow to Mrs Thatcher, who had hoped to crown the British presidency with a successful conclusion to this argument which has been undermining the European Community for several years.

It is also a great disappointment to the European Commission which has found that most of its proposals for compromise have been rejected in their entirety. The Commission now finds itself having to go back and draw up a new set of proposals for the foreign ministers and by now is in a desperate straits to know what might achieve any sort of breakthrough.

Although the first item on the agenda proposing new regional and social policies for the Community was settled, all the other problems remained unsolved which leaves no chance of final agreement.

A British spokesman said there was a general desire not to accept defeat and not to lose this opportunity, but the discussions were enormously complex, touching on issues of vital national interest.

Three key issues faced the representatives of the Ten, in addition to Britain, includes: West Germany, France, Italy, Ireland, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Greece and Luxembourg.

These were milk, Mediterranean produce and pricing, which were holding up settlement of the farm policy section.

One difficulty, according to several European delegations, was that Britain had been trying to force through an overall agreement when the member states were still widely divided on their approach, especially on reform of the budget contributions.

A Danish diplomat summed up crisply in the previous settlement the French and the Germans scored an own goal in giving Mrs Thatcher too much on the budget. They are going to score a goal for themselves this time.

Mrs Shirley Williams's overwhelming victory in the Crosby by-election for the Social Democrat and Liberal Alliance was described yesterday by both Conservative and Labour politicians as a watershed which neither party could afford to ignore.

Mr Edward Heath, the former Conservative Prime Minister, said that Crosby was a major triumph for the SDP and Mrs Williams. It was the birth of a new party, and Conservatives had better recognize the facts.

Mr Heath, answering questions on television, accepted the possibility of Conservative MPs joining the Social Democrats in government after the next general election, and of playing a role in that government himself if Mrs Thatcher proved unacceptable. "There might be invitations" which he could accept, he said.

Senior members of the SDP who heard Mr Heath said later that they believed they had been listening to a potential ally.

Officials from the EEC and member governments had worked through the night, but they failed to reach agreement to reform the ministerial discussions during the opening day of the summit, but apparently they had worked in vain.

"Whenever you try to set anything down on paper, you come up against reality," the British spokesman said.

An indication of the importance of the all-night discussion was that two agriculture ministers, those of France and Ireland, chose to sit with their officials through the night.

According to observers, Mme Edith Cresson, the French Minister of Agriculture and formidable defender of peasant farmers, threw into the waste-paper basket any hint she believed a threat to French rights.

The positions of the Ten varied according to how much each of them thought a settlement would cost them individually. In essence, therefore, the countries who recognized their own weakness in the negotiations would have to pay more to adopt the toughest position and trying to attract support from poorer and smaller countries.

Britain was manoeuvred into an almost isolated position because every nation felt that the entire dramatic exercise of changing the Community had been precipitated by British demands.

Britain made it clear it was still looking for a permanent budget mechanism, which other countries would have to perpetuate a system whereby it always paid into the Community roughly the same amount as it received from it.

Britain championed the idea of bringing agricultural prices down and inland prices up. It was also determined to resist any idea that there should be special help for the small farmers to the detriment of larger and more efficient units.

Both these positions, the agriculture was diametrically opposed to those of France, which was as determined as Britain in its desire to hold up prices to assure incomes, and to give extra help to small farmers. France was keen to win concessions on these points by agreeing to medium-term budgetary help for Britain.

West Germany, which has already accepted the fact it will have to continue to pay the largest single contributor to the budget, was prepared to allow a further three-year package to help Britain out, but only on the strict condition that its share of budget payments would fall below the level of 30 per cent. Although West Germany broadly supported the British position on agriculture, it was not making a political issue of any point.

Denmark, which proposed directly giving more to the Community membership than almost any other country remained firmly opposed to any changes, especially at a time when it has a general election.

Ireland, with its strong agricultural interest, aligned itself with the French position, seeking protection for small farmers. Confident that any new budget arrangement would still leave it as a net beneficiary, it took no strong position on the budget question.

The same was the case with Italy, which was also concerned to gain more from the Community membership than almost any other country remained firmly opposed to any changes, especially at a time when it has a general election.

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Monocled 'general' led failed coup

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Nov 27

While mercenaries who tried to overthrow President Albert René of the Seychelles this week were led by a dapper, monocled English "general", aged about 60, whose verdict was a pity that it had failed, but it would provide a valuable lesson for the future.

His second-in-command, who was well over six feet tall and heavily built, had a South African or Rhodesian accent.

This description of the ring-leaders of the group that landed at the Seychelles airport on Wednesday night and attempted to overthrow the government, was given by a passenger on the plane which was hijacked to Durban, in South Africa, where 44 mercenaries were arrested after five hours of negotiations.

According to passengers, the mercenaries forced the aircraft into landing, then, using the passengers as hostages, forced the pilot to take off.

On board, the mercenaries were in high spirits. They told the passengers that senior South African officials knew of the operation and had approved it.

A passenger said some of the mercenaries were swimming trunks or running shorts and sports shirts, but the "general" was smartly dressed in a sports jacket and slacks, with a white shirt and tie. He had a monocle in his right eye.

"He was about sixty, about five feet ten, obviously had a lot of military experience and everyone called him 'Sir'."

Many of the mercenaries had South African names and some spoke Afrikaans.

The leader was heard to tell his second-in-command: "It was madness to try to take the front gate with three men."

But the group was calm and relaxed and appeared to agree that the operation had gone well, despite its result.

During the flight to Durban they concocted a story for their arrival, although they said the South Africans knew about the operation, passengers said.

The "general" never spoke to the passengers until he was on the ground of Durban, he said to a woman: "I hope you realized the danger you were in."

Passengers described the landing as a "breeze" when the "general" said: "It was absolutely hair-raising."

Police interrogation, page 5

Russia tries to dispel food price rumours

From Michael Biryon, Moscow, Nov 27

A senior Soviet Government official interrupted a television sports programme last night to quash widespread rumours of a steep rise in food prices in January.

In an unscheduled broadcast Mr Andrei Kuznetsov, the deputy chairman of the State Prices Committee, said while prices for foodstuffs would go up next year, but there would be no change in the prices of food and other commodities. His five-minute address, in the middle of a popular ice hockey match, was clearly timed to reach the "largest possible audience."

In recent weeks, rumours have been sweeping Moscow that prices will go up on a range of staple products, such as coffee, tea, butter and other items. These were already scarce, and hoarding has made it almost impossible to find such basic items as tea, butter and even potatoes in the capital. Recently shopkeepers have been prosecuted for black-marketing in tea.

The rumours appear to have begun "word-of-mouth" the last round of price increases in September, which doubled the price of petrol and raised the cost of alcohol, tobacco, citrus fruit, fur, furmuffs and jewelry by about 25 per cent.

In view of this year's poor grain harvest and the campaign to stop people wasting bread, the price of which has not changed since 1953, many people expected an increase. But they are aware that the Soviet authorities evidently felt they could not afford any change. The prices of other staple products such as milk, butter and eggs have also remained unchanged for 15 years.

A change in wholesale prices for industry, however, was announced long ago as part of a move to revise a pricing system that has remained largely unchanged since 1967. Factories will have to pay up to 40 per cent more for fuel, metal and other raw materials to encourage conservation, the keynote of the seven-year plan.

Many Russians were expecting petrol to go up at the pump, as well as household items such as soap, made of meat, Mr Kuznetsov said last night. He had received many letters from people worried that the increase would be passed on to consumers.

He said the wholesale rise reflected the increasing cost of extracting fuel from Siberia. They would not affect industry, whose fuel supplies are heavily subsidised on a more realistic basis.

The changes will add further to the already vast subsidy bill the Soviet Government pays to maintain the policy of cheap food, which has become a basic pillar of Communist ideology. Subsidies now amount to 25,000 million (£8,940m) a year, and Pravda revealed that the most eaten each year only by dogs in the Soviet Union now amounted to 1,500 million a year.

Soviet economists are increasingly concerned that the effect on agriculture, which is counter-productive, so large are the subsidies that it does not pay the Government to encourage greater output of food.

As Romania's economy hurtles on "the verge of collapse, a shake-up appears to be taking place within the country's ruling Communist Party. Two senior party figures who have been blamed for economic failures in the vital coal mining industry, Mr Virgil Trofin and Mr Vasile Ogiradi, have been expelled from the party's central committee and the local party secretary of the Braşov mining district has been dismissed.

Mr Trofin, who is 55, is a former deputy prime minister and in 1971 was awarded, it now seems somewhat ironically, the title, Hero of Socialist Labour.

More dismissals are expected after a speech by President Ceausescu on Wednesday to the central committee in which he delivered a sweeping criticism of party officials for the failures in implementing economic policy.

The failure of coal output to come anywhere near the target is a grave setback in view of the difficulties the country is having in meeting its energy requirements. Romania's oil reserves are running out, and it had hoped that coal would take their place.

As it is, the country finds itself increasingly dependent on oil from the Soviet Union, which President Ceausescu said on Wednesday was not being supplied to the promised extent. He also criticized Comcon, the economic organization that embraces the Eastern Bloc countries and the Soviet Union, for lack of cooperation among its members and for its refusal to hold a special summit to deal with energy problems.

The agricultural situation is anything worse, and basic foodstuffs are in even shorter supply than in Poland. Food production has actually been falling, and earlier this autumn

BL appeals directly to strikers

By Clifford Webb
Midlands Industrial Correspondent

The management at BL took a calculated gamble yesterday to try to end the "tea break" strike which has stopped production at the Longbridge plant for three weeks. It went over the heads of the unions and appealed direct to the 8,200 workers on strike or laid off to report for work on Monday.

Full-page advertisements in local evening newspapers said that the plant would open as usual and workers who reported would be paid. The image of a company as well as doing great harm to sales and costing workers hundreds of pounds in lost wages.

Within minutes of the advertisement appearing, BL reported that its switchboards were jammed with calls from workers appealing the move. But the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU), which represents most of the strikers, reacted strongly and said that it was giving full official support to the dispute and would be making strike pay available on Monday and Tuesday.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW) announced official support two weeks ago, but has not yet paid strike pay. A Birmingham district committee recommendation to do this will be considered by the national executive on Monday.

The TGWU response is clearly an attempt to maintain Continued on page 2, col 1.

Romania drops top men as economy totters

From David Blow, Vienna, Nov 27

As Romania's economy hurtles on "the verge of collapse, a shake-up appears to be taking place within the country's ruling Communist Party. Two senior party figures who have been blamed for economic failures in the vital coal mining industry, Mr Virgil Trofin and Mr Vasile Ogiradi, have been expelled from the party's central committee and the local party secretary of the Braşov mining district has been dismissed.

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Theatre can use naked flame, magistrate rules

The National Theatre has won its battle against a decision by Greater London Council to ban the use on stage of a naked flame in its production of the Greek tragedy *Orestes*.

The GLC's fire prevention branch had ruled that the flame was dangerous and not necessary. But at Horseferry Road Court, in South London, yesterday, Mr Edmund McDermott, the magistrate, upheld the theatre's appeal after reading the play, written by Aeschylus in 458BC. An eight-foot high naked torch was essential to the action, he said.

If the author were given the permission to leave Olympus and visit these far distant northern shores, and the South Bank, I am sure he would be outraged if he saw no real flame in the action of his play. I can well imagine him saying something to the effect that it would be like Prometheus without chains and without fire.

"I am certain, what would be his view that real flames are essential to the action of the play. I have seen and examined the proposed source of flame, and in responsible hands, I am bound to say, my judgment is that it does not constitute a realistic danger."

The magistrate said he appreciated the concern of the fire authorities but understood that they do not want to create a precedent. Neither do I. But this is an exceptional play by one who has been called the father of all playwrights.

Mr McDermott, who had seen the torch demonstrated,

added: "In my view the theatre should be allowed to use a real flame in the torch as seen by me, or an exact replica, so an order to that effect will be made."

Sir Peter Hall, director of the National Theatre, had told the court the torch was a metaphor for "enlightenment, reconciliation and humanity". An electric torch used in the rehearsals had been "pathetic".

After the ruling was announced he said: "We are very pleased indeed with the result of our appeal."

"A real flame has a very particular meaning at the end of the trilogy, in a sense like the passing on of the Olympic flame. We can now do on stage what the text of Aeschylus's play demands, and that makes us very happy."

In the play, which opens today at the Olivier Theatre, the torch burns for four and a half minutes on stage at the end of the production.

Officers from the London Fire Brigade visited the theatre yesterday to discuss the safety aspects of using a live flame.

The chief staff officer, Mr Michael Doherty, said: "In this case the ruling went against us, but fortunately it has given us some very useful guidelines for the future. The magistrate indicated that this case would not be a precedent for everyone else to have live flames on stage."

The concern of the fire brigade was to ensure that all possible safety measures were carried out, he said.

GLC says performing arts must go to shopfloor

By Christopher Warman Arts Correspondent

The National Theatre, the English National Opera and the other arts "centres of excellence" should take their work into London's communities and visit factories such as Ford's at Dagenham if they want money from the Greater London Council, Mr Tony Banks, chairman of the council's arts and recreation committee, said yesterday.

The council would pay for such ventures, but did not think it right to remain in junior partnership with the Arts Council in fixing annual grants for the great centres in London. "National centres are by definition the responsibility of central government," he added.

Speaking at a conference on London and the arts, Mr Banks placed the arts firmly within the political arena, despite a plea from Mr Frederick Weyer, Conservative arts spokesman on the GLC, that politics should be kept out of the arts.

Mr Banks declared: "While the Labour Party at County Hall has no desire to inject political uncertainty into arts funding in London, there exists a consensus that decisions affecting the arts cannot be divorced from wider political considerations."

The GLC Labour administration viewed arts policy in much the same way as those for housing, transport, planning and employment. "In other words, the arts exist to serve the community,"

Mr Banks asserted that he was bidding for a GLC arts budget well in excess of the present level of inflation. There remained strong support within the Labour administration for greater priority for community involvement in the arts, combating unemployment, the need for closer links with borough councils, and recognition of the multi-ethnic nature of London's culture.

He argued that the real growth area next year must be in the funding of arts within the community, both by stimulating greater personal involvement of individuals and making the arts more accessible for them within their communities.

He suggested the formation of a community arts board, which would involve the GLC and Greater London Arts Association, allocating funds provided by County Hall.

In addition Mr Banks has asked the Inner London Education Authority and the managers of the four orchestras in the London Orchestral Concert Board to make proposals for increasing arts activities in London schools.

Role of consultant 'must alter'

By Annabel Ferriman Health Services Correspondent

Many hospital consultants are opposed to an expansion in the consultant grade because it would mean greater competition for private work. Mrs Renée Short, Labour MP for Wolverhampton, North-east, said yesterday.

Mrs Short, chairman of the parliamentary Select Committee, which recently recommended an expansion in the consultant grade, said that the role of the consultant, who used to be a demi-god followed by a train of junior doctors, would have to change. As the number of consultants increased, so would their share of the routine work.

Some consultants, most notably members of the Hospital Consultants' Association, had objected to the report's recommendations, but junior doctors saw that as an attempt to protect their status, she said.

Mrs Short, who was speaking at a meeting of the Medical Women's Federation in London, said that although a 4 per cent increase in the consultant grade over the next 10 years would cost £43m, the costs of patient care might fall because patients looked after by a consultant were discharged more quickly and had fewer unnecessary tests.

"The Department of Health and Social Security said that it could save £115m a year by reducing the length of stay of patients in hospital. £65m could be saved by fewer outpatient visits and £2.5m by a reduction in X-rays. That added up to almost £200m, which outweighed the costs of the report's recommendations," Mrs Short said.

TV SERIES ON CINEMA IS DROPPED

By Kenneth Gossling

There was a disappointed reaction from the film industry yesterday to the news that Clapperboard, Granada Television's long-running series on the cinema, is to end on January 1. It will leave independent television without a regular networked programme on films.

The series has run for nearly ten years, during which time nearly 500 programmes about films and how films are made were produced for younger viewers. A Granada spokesman said the time of the programme had been changing, and now no regular slot could be found for it.

Labour plans law to stop transport 'intervention'

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

A future Labour government would pass laws to prevent the "outrageous" intervention of the judiciary in local transport, Mr Albert Booth, opposition spokesman on transport, promised last night.

It would also provide more funds to prevent a rundown of the railways and examine the purchase and use of company cars, he told the National Council for Inland Transport in London.

In a preview of a future Labour administration's transport policies, Mr Booth said Labour would have a large task in putting the nation's transport together after its disintegration caused by Conservative policies. New levels of expenditure and new frontiers between public and private sectors would have to be set.

Fares had to be lowered to achieve greater balance between public and private transport, with a doubling of



Adventure comes of age

Notting Hill Adventure Playground, in west London, which celebrates its twenty-first birthday today, is marking the coming of age of one of Britain's pioneer adventure playgrounds and one of the few which are still independently managed, there will be a huge birthday cake, stalls and sideshows. A particular triumph of the playground is that its management has during recent years raised money towards a local community centre, which is to open soon. The late Lady Allen of Hurtwood, who started the adventure playground movement in Britain, took a particular interest in the Notting Hill scheme. She was told the movement would be a "fine-month wonder". Instead it has expanded enormously. There are about a hundred adventure playgrounds

in London and more than two hundred in the rest of Britain. Being a playleader is now seen as a career, and training is given. Mr Pat Smyth, chairman of the Notting Hill playground, was playleader there from 1962 to 1972. He says: "The children I once knew are now grown up and are sending their own children here. He feels the playground's role in troubled Notting Hill is as important as ever. "We have such an ethnic mix in north Kensington, and the playground has played an essential part not only in providing directly for children, but also in helping to establish other important neighbourhood projects. And our new community centre will enable us to do even better. But, of course, we still need money."

Criticism on housing rejected

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

The Government reacted sharply yesterday to an attack on its housing policy from the Commons Select Committee on the Environment. "The Government totally rejects the criticism", it said in a short White Paper. It repeated the objective of fitting housing policy into the overriding aim of "bringing the economy back on to a firm footing".

The eight-page document, issued by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, contained seven criticisms of the Committee's report, published in July.

The committee, on which Conservative MPs hold a narrow majority, was highly critical of the analysis on which Mr Heseltine had based his projections of housing needs and supplies in the early 1980s.

"The Government does not accept the committee's view that the department has as a matter of course deprived itself of information necessary for reaching sound decisions", the White Paper stated.

The document reflects a conviction by Mr Heseltine that the committee gave too little credit to the Government's efforts to stimulate supplies of housing in a period of public spending cuts. The White Paper said the committee had underestimated the long-term impact of Government measures to promote low-cost home ownership.

"The Government also considers that the committee has underestimated the existing scale of low-cost home ownership activity", the White Paper went on.

Government reply to the Third Report from the Environment Committee (Cmd 8435, Stationery Office, £1.15).

Educate blacks for jobs, Scarman says

By Frances Gibb

The Government should spend money on helping blacks to achieve higher educational standards and every employer will in due course require—and I would spend money and time on it", he said.

But he did not mean there should be quota systems for blacks, or the lowering of standards in professions or trades.

In an interview on London Broadcasting, Lord Scarman said he had refrained from making recommendations about money in his report because as a judge that was not for him to do. But he added: "Of course, as an individual I believe that money ought to be spent."

"I was conscious that I was a judge and not a politician and it is for politicians to decide whether the report reveals a sufficiently serious situation and sufficiently serious proposals that money should be spent."

Lord Scarman explained what he had meant by "positive discrimination", one of the most controversial sections of his report, which was published last Wednesday.

"I do not mean quota system in favour of black people or other ethnic minorities; I do not mean lowering standards or entry into a profession or calling, so that black people can get in where white people, to get in, have to achieve high standards."

That would create a distinction between first and second-class citizens within a profession or calling, which was utterly unacceptable, he said.

But black people had certain special needs, in education and in the job market, the same way as in other contexts disabled people or women had special needs and disadvantages. "And society on the whole says they must be helped."

Action to help the West Indian ethnic minorities should include "emphasis on ensuring they assumed command of the English language; that they have learnt the basic skills which every employer will in due course require—and I would spend money and time on it", he said.

In the job market Lord Scarman said he would "do what I could to encourage employers to employ black people where the candidates emerging had the necessary qualifications".

A good example was his recommendation on recruiting blacks into the police. "I do not want black policemen who have failed to reach the intellectual or character qualifications for the very important role of the policeman."

"But I do want to see black people who have the potential, but who have fallen behind educationally, given the opportunity by special training and so forth to reach the standard."

Asked which of his recommendations he most wanted implemented, Lord Scarman said that he wished to see consultation with the local community by the police; "the development of the home beat officer idea of policing; making sure that the police, although they use technology, are not overwhelmed by it and that the human factor remains".

Question Time, the BBC Television programme, chaired by Sir Robin Day, was attacked yesterday as "deliberately slanted" by the Merseyside branch of the Police Federation.

Members of the branch intended to write to the BBC with a list of complaints about Thursday night's programme, which was recorded in Liverpool before an invited audience. They say the police were unable to answer a series of criticisms.

Police Sergeant Frederick Jones, chairman of the Federation's Merseyside branch, said the audience was largely composed of community leaders from "trouble areas" such as Toxteth.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Dog pack attacked Labour MP

Murphy, an Irish wolfhound, led six dogs in an attack on Mr Douglas Jay, aged 74, Labour MP for Wandsworth, Battersea, North, magistrates at Tavistock, Devon, were told yesterday.

Mr Jay received stitches and an anti-tetanus injection in hospital.

Matthew White, of Lower Merrit Farm, Postbridge, near Felveton, Devon, denied one offence of owning a dangerous dog and two of not having licences. His wife, Mrs Trudo White, denied two offences of owning dangerous dogs which were not kept under proper control, and admitted two of not having dog licences. Their daughter, Miss Susan White, denied one dangerous dog offence and admitted two counts of having no licences.

The magistrates ordered the dogs to be kept under proper control and fined Mrs White and her daughter £10 each for having no licences. Mr White was found not guilty of having no licences.

Taxi girl killer jailed for life

A man who brutally murdered a woman taxi driver after sexually assaulting her in a field was jailed for life at Oxford Crown Court yesterday.

Roger Keene, aged 28, a divorcee, of Steeple Aston, pleaded guilty to murdering Sally Davidson, aged 22, at Steeple Aston, near Banbury.

Crash viewers stop M1 traffic

Motorists who slowed down of the M1 to watch people being cut free from wreckage in two separate crashes half a mile apart near Watford brought rush hour traffic to a standstill yesterday morning.

Which of the 'Big 5' Building Societies offers instant withdrawals on Extra Interest Accounts? Only one. The Leeds.



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General Jaruzelski tries for ban on right to strike

By Roger Boyes

Poland's communist leadership, in an attempt to outflank Solidarity, the independent trade union movement, yesterday announced that it was seeking a ban on strikes.

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister and party leader, said that the ruling Politburo had asked the Government to draw up the relevant legislation which would then be presented to the Sejm, the Polish Parliament.

The move appears to be motivated by three main considerations. First, the Polish Government is in the midst of delicate negotiations with Solidarity over who should have ultimate control over the economy. A strike ban—or even simply the threat of a strike ban—would give the Government important leverage in the talks. Apart from the strike and other militant forms of industrial protest, Solidarity has few instruments of pressure on the Government.

Second, the general line at yesterday's Central Committee meeting was to plan the country's economic plight on Solidarity. The ultimate aim of this would be to loosen the bonds binding people with the independent union.

An official report read to the Central Committee attacked the extremists in the ranks of Solidarity and the use of "strike terrorism". The report, read by Mr Marian Wasmok, a member of the Central Committee secretary, added:

"The strike terror is emasculating the state and annihilating the nation".

The Government has a strong interest in avoiding any form of public disorder during the coming winter. The Roman Catholic Church also called yesterday for calm and order during the coming months although it emphasized that it had no wish to become a political force.

However, if the party leadership tries to realize its threat of a strike ban it may run into trouble with both Solidarity and parliament. The Sejm, which was once little more than a rubber stamp parliament for party initiatives, has assumed a far more independent role over the past year. Although the Sejm has previously issued an appeal for an end to strikes, the call was tinged with a certain amount of sympathy for Solidarity.

Greece to seek new status

By Denis Taylor

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Socialist Prime Minister of Greece, said last night that while he favoured a referendum on EEC membership, his Government was not seeking a renegotiation of its terms of membership.

He said that he was seeking a recognition of Greece's specific problems and a special status different from that envisaged by the Greek Treaty of Accession. His Government was convinced that the rules were ones that worked well for the industrially advanced countries of Northern Europe.

He was in favour of a referendum in which the basic choice should be between full membership of the EEC for Greece or a special status for that country. But Mr Papandreu emphasized that the question of a referendum lay within the prerogative and the competence of the President of Greece.

In the meantime, Mr Papandreu said, the Government wanted the EEC to understand that Greece, being in an underdeveloped position, might have to recourse to the escape clauses provided by the Treaty of Rome. It might have to take measures such as national aid to farmers which might conflict with the rules and regulations decided within the Community.

Mr Papandreu said he could not assure the Greek people that it would be possible to take the necessary measures within the Community which would grant Greece a special status. But he stressed that his Government would work "within the instrumentality of the Community" until such time as a final decision could be reached on a plebiscite.

THIEVES STEAL INCA GOLD

Lima, Nov 27.—Armed robbers broke into the main museum of archaeological museum and stole 50 gold and silver Inca artefacts, said to have a minimum commercial value of about £2.5m.

Police immediately moved into the museum and the robbers fled. Nothing was found.

The thieves forced their way into the museum at midnight. They overcame three security guards.

Court of Appeal

Jennings Motors Ltd v Secretary of State for the Environment
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Watkins
[Judgment delivered November 27]

Where there has been some physical alteration to part of a site, by the erection of a new building or the alteration of an existing building, that is one of the factors to be taken into account in considering whether there has taken place a change of use to a radical nature as to constitute a break in planning history or a new planning unit.

The Court of Appeal in reserved judgments allowed an appeal by Jennings Motors Ltd, of Diddon Purlieu, Hampshire, from the decision of the Divisional Court (Lord Justice Donaldson, Lord Justice Bridge and Lord Justice C.R. 221) dismissing their appeal from the Secretary of State for the Environment's decision upholding an enforcement notice issued by the local planning authority, the New Forest District Council, relating to the use of a building erected on an area of land used for a taxi, car and coach hire business and for vehicle repairs and car sales.

The matter was remitted to the Secretary of State with the opinion of the court for rehearing and determination by him.

Mr Michael Burrell and Mr John Hobson for Jennings Motors; Mr Simon D. Brown for the Secretary of State.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in the middle of a

US sees prospects of fair accord on missile cuts

From Our Correspondent, Geneva, Nov 27

Mr Paul Nitze, the chief American negotiator, saw "prospects for reaching a fair, equitable and verifiable agreement" when he arrived here today for talks with the Soviet Union on reducing the number of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. Such an agreement "could be the blueprint for a new era of East-West relations," he added.

Mr Nitze said he believed "the present state of anxiety and the imperative of establishing peace" were such as to spur on the two superpowers in efforts for reducing nuclear weapons. However, negotiations would be "complex and delicate, with many preliminary issues to be resolved."

"We must be careful to shun both euphoria and discouragement as we proceed, keeping in clear view our objectives: peace, balance and stability," he added.

In the meantime, Mr Papandreu said, the Government wanted the EEC to understand that Greece, being in an underdeveloped position, might have to recourse to the escape clauses provided by the Treaty of Rome. It might have to take measures such as national aid to farmers which might conflict with the rules and regulations decided within the Community.

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among, others, for the implementation of economic reforms and the enactment of a law on workers' participation in industrial management. A similar moderate tone was heard from the Government-Solidarity negotiations. According to Solidarity's news service, the Government has agreed in principle to give the union control over food production and distribution. The two sides remain deadlocked, however, over what forum should be created to control the economy.

The Polish Episcopal Church Council yesterday underlined the need for "mutual and indispensable structures" in the economy and said there could be no conciliation as long as the mass media made use of "half-truths".

This gives tacit support to Solidarity's case for better access to the media and to a social control to oversee the workings of the economy.

But labour unrest continues to plague the country. Police in Warsaw cordoned off an area close to the firemen's training academy after about 300 students—pleading for the demolition of the school—ignored a deadline to end their sit-in protest. In the countryside, private farmers in many regions are persisting with strikes. At least 100 workers will go on strike to the Koscin area, and there is widespread unrest at universities and secondary schools.

Jobless fund runs out

Brussels, Nov 27.—The Belgian Government has practically no more money to pay allowances to the country's 413,000 unemployed, Mr Roger de Wulf, caretaker Minister of Labour, announced today.

Belgium has the highest unemployment rate in the European Community—12.7 per cent. The country also has a record budget deficit and, above all, no Government and no Parliament. The Government fell on September 21 and the new Parliament elected on November 8 has not yet convened.

Mr de Wulf said he had asked for 10,900m francs (about £57m) for the December payment of unemployment allowances. He said the only money made available by the Minister of Finance was 2,400m francs, which represents only one week of unemployment allowances.

The annual cost of unemployment is 125,000m francs. The number of jobless workers getting allowances is expected to reach 600,000 by 1985. The state budget deficit, already exceeding 150,000m francs this year, is expected to exceed 200,000m francs next year.

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Back on her feet after two nights in hospital, Mrs Rose Kennedy, aged 90, accompanying her son, Senator Edward Kennedy, daughter, Mrs Pat Lawford, and grandson, Mr Patrick Kennedy, to Mass in Palm Beach, Florida, yesterday. She was taken to hospital with chest pains on Tuesday, and was discharged on Thursday.

British MP denounces EEC talks

By George Clark

For all the time it had been the European summit meeting in London might just as well never have taken place and the heads of government might as well have stayed at home, Mr Peter Shore, the British Labour Party's frontbench spokesman on economic affairs, told a meeting of the Safeguard Britain Campaign in London last night.

He was taking place was yet another re-run of reforming the common agricultural policy (CAP) without changing it, and "reducing the scandalous British contribution to the Euro-budget" without altering the system which produced it, Mr Shore said.

He claimed that the cost to the British consumer of "imprisonment" within the CAP and the denial to Britain of other low-cost imported foodstuffs in an average year, is no less than £3,000m. The budget arrangements, in spite of the temporary reduction which Mrs Thatcher obtained, cost at least another £1,000m.

A dangerous proposal had now been produced for extending the range and competence of "this near moribund organization," said Mr Shore. The new European Act, formulated by Germany and France, would take a long stride down the road to unwanted European union.

It was outrageous that the European Act was not even to be submitted for the approval of the House of Commons, he said. He urged the House to reject the proposal and to demand a referendum on the subject.

On dealing with enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal, the council "confirmed the political commitment" which was the basis for agreeing to negotiate entry with the two countries.

"It emphasized the need for both the community and the acceding countries to make good use of the period until accession for careful preparation for the community's further enlargement by introducing the necessary reforms so that the potential benefits can be realized."

The council agreed that in the community's deliberations on its internal development, the Council would need to be paid to the importance of the accession of Portugal and Spain.

It also agreed on the importance of the contacts established between the ten and the acceding countries in the framework of political cooperation and confirmed that it is their intention to continue to keep Portugal and Spain closely informed about developments in political cooperation.

"It looks forward to the day when the leaders of these two countries will take their places in the European Council as full and equal members."

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Budget stalls talks Optimistic Schmidt predicts unity

By Peter Norman

One of the more optimistic EEC heads of government at the Lancaster House summit meeting was Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor. He said after the discussions that it was with certain bounds realistic to expect the foreign ministers to agree on the four outstanding points by Christmas.

"There are only four sub-headings where we could not agree on a form of words. Otherwise, there was a great deal of substance that came out of this meeting," the Chancellor said.

The special meeting of foreign ministers will take place in Britain and will be the last of its kind. Plans to promote new policies in the economic and social field were approved, conditional on agreement being reached in the disputed areas of agriculture and budget policy. A proposal to expand the role of the borrowing and lending instrument known as the new community instrument by 3,000 million European currency units, was accepted in principle.

Herr Schmidt, who had originally resisted the idea, said it would be a matter of 10 minutes' work to reach agreement on this, once the four other questions had been cleared up. The new community instrument would serve to channel funds into infrastructure and industrial projects in Europe's less prosperous areas.

The Chancellor broadly shared President Mitterrand's assessment of the relative difficulties to be encountered in resolving the outstanding areas of disagreement.

Leading article, page 7

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Budget stalls talks Thatcher drives on relentlessly

By Ian Murray

There had never been a summit like it, a British presidency spokesman said at the European Community summit meeting, yesterday, and diplomatically added that he really meant there had never been a summit like it for ministers getting down to problems and talking about them in depth.

At all events it will go down in history as one of the longest European summit meetings.

It began auspiciously enough on Thursday with a lunch at Buckingham Palace and then a prompt start to the summit in the Long Room of Lancaster House. They agreed at the start to rise by 6.30; but failed to do so by half an hour as they argued on, apparently amicably, about how to reshape the Community.

The adjourned to meet again over dinner at No 10 Downing Street, where, from 8.15 to 10.15, they discussed foreign affairs. Then they were joined for a further hour by their foreign ministers to discuss the worldwide discussion over coffee.

Officials from the European Commission and member states had been set the task of producing a working document for the next day's session. The drafting and redrafting went on for 12 hours. By 6 am yesterday, after what a presidency spokesman described as a "very appointingly overnight slog," they had produced a 15-page document full of many options on key points that any agreement seemed "impossible."

Mrs Thatcher, however, was determined not to give up. After the meeting convened at 10 am she raced through the agenda of economic and social problems and European union in order to restart discussions on the budget problem by about noon.

Word filtered out soon afterwards that agreement had been reached on the outstanding problems on the section devoted to new policies and that Mrs Thatcher was pressing on relentlessly with the rest of the options in the 15-page paper.

Normal lunchtime came and went until at 2.45 hunger drove her to the Lancaster House dining table. It was the sort of time when most of those present had expected to be already on their way back home.

At through the long, late lunch the debate continued, with milk at the top of the agenda, although wine was provided to help down the food. At four o'clock they resumed the meeting proper again.

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Thatcher drives on relentlessly

By Ian Murray

There had never been a summit like it, a British presidency spokesman said at the European Community summit meeting, yesterday, and diplomatically added that he really meant there had never been a summit like it for ministers getting down to problems and talking about them in depth.

At all events it will go down in history as one of the longest European summit meetings.

It began auspiciously enough on Thursday with a lunch at Buckingham Palace and then a prompt start to the summit in the Long Room of Lancaster House. They agreed at the start to rise by 6.30; but failed to do so by half an hour as they argued on, apparently amicably, about how to reshape the Community.

The adjourned to meet again over dinner at No 10 Downing Street, where, from 8.15 to 10.15, they discussed foreign affairs. Then they were joined for a further hour by their foreign ministers to discuss the worldwide discussion over coffee.

Officials from the European Commission and member states had been set the task of producing a working document for the next day's session. The drafting and redrafting went on for 12 hours. By 6 am yesterday, after what a presidency spokesman described as a "very appointingly overnight slog," they had produced a 15-page document full of many options on key points that any agreement seemed "impossible."

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, Nov 27

Zimbabwe bishop to resign

Snub Chad rebels says Moi

Mugabe slashes his army

Ship's crew lost in heavy seas

for

Haig tries to prevent veto on Sinai force

Cabinet to meet at Begin's bedside

Troops from the local to investigate the incident.

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Shirley Williams



magnificent victory in Crosby is a victory for all the people of Britain. Isn't it time you joined us?

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Morocco talks to Algeria on peace in desert war

Spanish justice and independent state. King Hassan contends that the area, which contains rich phosphate

towards them, but a spokesman at the Halifax Rescue Centre said that was unlikely unless the prevailing wind changed.

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SHIRLEY WILLIAMS, M.P.

It is not unprecedented for a Government to suffer, as Mrs Thatcher's Government has suffered at Crosby, a massive haemorrhage of support and the loss of even the safest of seats. Mr Macmillan lost Orpington in 1962, Mr Heath lost Sutton and Cheam in 1972, each to the Liberals and Mr Callaghan lost Ashfield to the Conservatives in 1977. But before Mrs Thatcher takes comfort from this historical perspective, she should note that none of those Prime Ministers won the subsequent general election. And nothing in recent history can by comparison diminish the astonishing performance of Mrs Shirley Williams at Crosby.

She started from scratch with effectively no party base in a constituency which is quintessentially Tory territory, wealthy, suburban, middle class; where it is not Tory, it touches Liverpool's depressed edges and should have given Labour an increased vote. It is a tribute to her own engaging personality and the momentum behind the new Alliance party that well before polling day she was firm favourite. Her Tory opponent defending a mountainous 19,000 majority was viewed by commentators and electors alike with patronising sympathy as the underdog. The engaging left-wing Labour candidate was swept aside by Mrs Williams whirling campaign.

Whether or not Crosby is a watershed in British politics remains to be proven. There are still up to two and a half years to go to the next general election and much can change. Not all future SDP candidates will have the allure of Mrs Williams — or Mr Roy Jenkins, who will presumably soon follow her into Westminster. The Alliance vote still seems a loose one, as much against the old parties as positively for the new. But the evidence of a structural change in our political geography, rather than a passing piece of fluff which will soon blow away, accumulates. Certainly the Alliance has won a smashing victory winning votes from all sides, from trade unionists and from poor, as well as from middle class, rich, young and old. Of particular importance to the SDP is that they have now secured representation in Parliament in their own right, rather than indirectly through their Liberal allies or obliquely through Labour defectors. The British electorate may prove fickle, yet its blessing gives a legitimacy as well as a mandate to the voice of the new party at Westminster.

Legitimacy and familiarity

will bring burdens as well as benefits. From now on the Social Democrats will have to grapple with matters which have so far been partially submerged in their euphoric tide. They will need to resolve their leadership: the present ruling quartet, however harmoniously in tune, cannot be offered to a General Election. The British public will want to know in good time who would enter Downing Street as Prime Minister — and the monarch needs to know who to ask to go there to form a Government. The electorate will also require more information about the new party's policies. Unemployment is overwhelmingly chosen by the public as the most important issue. How would the Social Democrats reduce unemployment without increasing inflation? They do not subscribe to current monetarist remedies but nor do they have the support of organised labour with which to launch an agreed incomes policy.

They have plenty of time to answer these and many other questions made more pertinent now they are becoming convincing candidates to participate in Government. But they should not be surprised if the questions are pressed harder by a more critical media than hitherto. "Refutation" will not do as an answer. They may still not suffer the rough treatment which afflicts politicians of the older regimes; perhaps because they are almost by self-definition the party of nice people, and even more because they offer an alternative to Mrs Thatcher which is not Mr Benn's Labour Party. But their Crosby triumph may ironically bring their honeymoon to an end and should henceforth expose them to much more penetrating scrutiny.

Neither the Conservatives nor Labour can rescue any shred of consolation from the wreckage of Crosby. Each put forward a candidate who reflected the character and policies of the dominant election within his party. The electorate has responded with absolute clarity — in Crosby, as in Croydon, and in Warrington — that it likes neither.

It seems to be an anxious electorate, worried about dole queues of skilled men and women and school leavers and the dogmatic confrontations of the two old parties. It is certainly a more discerning and questioning electorate, as anyone who has been in a by-election meeting will testify, where the normal battalions of voters brain-washed by the media and dazzled by personality which the Labour left

likes to blame for its chronic failure. In this they are at least consistent: contempt for the ordinary individual's ability to make a sensible decision is a central thread of left-wing opinion.

The conservative response that they are suffering the penalty for doing the correct things which happened to be unpopular is more appealing. But there is no doubt that Mrs Thatcher has suffered a devastating reverse and will come under even greater pressure from her own party to talk softly and carry a smaller stick. Even her Treasury Minister, Mr Leon Brittan, who is of the hard shirt school of economics, became extremely agitated during the televising of the Crosby count when Mr William Rodgers suggested that the Government was extremist. The difficulty for Mrs Thatcher, who has more honesty and integrity than most politicians, is that however softly she talks she knows she cannot ease up on the personal sector. It is the corporate sector which needs renovation; and it takes more time probably than she has left herself for nourishment there to reach the voting consumer-worker. A soft Budget in 1983 may be forced on her but it will jar. Her instinctive reaction now will be to steam ahead, comforted by the sight of the traditional Labour enemy crumbling before her eyes.

Labour has indeed been humiliated, incredibly losing its deposit in the midst of a major recession, and has now not won a by-election for ten years. Nearly three-quarters of the potential Labour vote is believed to have switched to the Alliance. Many Labour moderates will be secretly pleased by the result, hoping that the evidence of repeated electoral defeats will force their party to draw back from the brink of extremism. They almost certainly misjudge their left-wing comrades, who do not mind losing the next general election and positively delight in the steady deflections which reduce the strength of the moderate wing. The left looks beyond to when the Labour Party will be pure in doctrine and within their tight control. Then, in an assumed climate of continuing economic crisis, with millions out of work or threatened with unemployment, they believe they would march back to power under Mr Benn and a Marxist Labour banner. It is not an impossible scenario. But Crosby was a welcome reassurance that the British public, at least for the present, quite clearly knows what it does not want.

VERY DOWN FROM THE SUMMIT

The failure of the European summit arrests the development of the Community at a moment when it badly needs to move forward. It will undermine public confidence, and is a sad way of bringing to a close Britain's initially hopeful period in the chair. This should be not only the summit at which the political leaders of the member nations lifted their eyes above narrow interpretations of national interest and broke through bureaucratic obstacles into a new era of reform.

There is, after all, a lot at stake. Public opinion is not particularly enthusiastic about the Community. Unemployment is growing. Industrial restructuring is not only the Community's problem. The Common Agricultural Policy will be made even more impossible by the admission of Portugal and Spain. Foreign affairs increasingly demand a European voice — there is, for instance, no reason why so much of the burden of bring-

ing the super powers together should fall on Herr Schmidt personally. Europe is also going to need more unity and coherence if problems continue to mount in eastern Europe. Fortunately, political cooperation has made progress in spite of differences in other fields but it needs a better foundation of general agreement if it is to prosper.

In many ways the task should have been easier now than it was in the past. The mood is calmer than when Mrs Thatcher was dominating the scene with her demands for rectification of Britain's contributions to the budget. Although further agreements are still necessary, Britain has done better than expected because of developments in world trade. Too much of the burden has now fallen on West Germany, but it should not be beyond the Community to cope with this problem. Moreover the day when the community's budget resources run out has become more remote. In addition France

Paisley and Ulster

From Miss Devila Murphy
Sir, Three times yesterday, at separate venues, I heard Ian Paisley, M.P., describing Mrs Thatcher, as Queen's Prime Minister, as a "liar and a traitor". He was addressing the Queen's subjects in part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This morning many people in Belfast are asking: "How would the British Government react if an MP in Leeds or Bristol publicly described the Prime Minister as a traitor?"

It is tempting to dismiss Ian Paisley as a half-crazed buffoon. Yet anybody who has studied the history of Northern Ireland over the past twenty years, or who highlights how one individual, has consistently stood in the way of progress towards peace and maintained conditions under which the IRA could thrive, is it not time for the British Government to take

Preserving old London

From Mr Geoffrey R. Fox
Sir, Some months ago you published a picture of the City of London showing the effect of the high-rise office blocks. Perhaps you would publish this letter to remind all who care how the remaining old corners of the City are being lost one by one and to highlight how one public body could help.

Two-and-a-half sides of Wardrobe Place are about to be demolished to be replaced by twentieth-century buildings which will spoil the character and

Silence from Poland

From Mr David Pinto
Sir, Having just entered through the barbed wire barrier, tank ditches, mine-fields and look-out towers manned by armed men into the pleasant countryside of Czechoslovakia I can assure Tom Stoppard (feature, November 18) that these nice people incarcerated in the prison-type barrier will not talk about their rules imposed upon them by their wardens.

This really is hardly surprising in the circumstances.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PINTO,
15 Dover Street, W1,
November 18.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Chairmen's salaries in a wider context

From Mr Peter Phelps
Sir, The recent conference of the Confederation of British Industry at Easingwold was notable for statements by employers about the need to moderate or reduce their own remuneration.

You reported (November 4) that the 10 executive directors of ICI had decided, first to waive their entitlement to a 6 per cent productivity bonus for five months of 1980 and the whole of 1981, and then to forgo salary increases of 8 1/2 per cent for this year. They had been joined in the latter decision by about 100 senior managers, and all the money saved had "gone back into the kitty".

On the previous day, one chairman had been quoted at the conference by Mrs R. Mills, an economics consultant, as having told his workforce: "You can have 5 per cent, but I will take nothing". As a result the firm had not had a pay dispute for 10 years.

During a debate on pay, Sir Colin Campbell, chairman of James Finlay, said: "We should take standstill or link any increase to the performance of our companies. Would not that be the way of getting over to the workforce at large that the world does not owe us a living?"

Surely it would, in such a matter, be better to precede. Such initiatives are likely to have a beneficial effect and to help reduce the two-way gap between "them" and "us" — something that all parties on all sides are looking for.

Yours etc,
PETER PHELPS,
King's Stone Avenue,
Stagbury,
Sussex,
November 25.

Pressure for change in sentencing

From the Chairman of Council, The Magistrates' Association
Sir, The Magistrates' Association is aware of the challenge to order occasioned by overcrowding in our prisons. This is, in large measure, due to the rise in crime and would doubtless be more severe if the length of sentences had not already been reduced. The present trend towards shorter custodial sentences, fully endorsed by the magistracy who were among the first to advocate them, should not be underestimated as a measure with long-term effect.

The main concern of the association in opposing early release is the danger that it would in the estimation of the offender, undermine the authority of the courts because the outcome, in practice, of a six-month sentence of imprisonment could be a period in custody of only two months.

The association welcomes the Government's initiative on partially suspended sentences particularly as their main reservation is met by the proposal that they could be applied to sentences of three months and thus their relevance to magistrates' courts would be greatly increased.

It is not unaware of the pitfalls in such a system and would vigorously seek to avoid inconsistencies which might arise in its application and any substitution of such a sentence for an appropriate non-custodial disposal. Magistrates nevertheless feel it is of the utmost importance that partially suspended sentences would leave it to the court to decide what proportion of the sentence should be served in custody and what proportion be suspended.

We are appreciative of the fact that the Government, in tackling this problem, shared with its predecessors, seeks to maintain the principle of judicial discretion in the face of growing pressures for palliatives.

Yours faithfully,
ENID RALPH,
Chairman of Council,
The Magistrates' Association,
28 Fitzroy Square, W1,
November 23.

Case for treasure trove revision

From the Director of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust
Sir, Yesterday (November 24), at a coroner's inquest in Dover, the jury found that only 10 out of 11 coins in a sixteenth-century hoard were treasure trove. The hoard, an unusual one, contained a shilling, three pence and two groats of Elizabeth I (all 92.5 per cent fine silver), four one-fifth ecus of Philip II (83 per cent fine silver) and a patard of Charles V (only 31 per cent fine silver). These last five coins come from the Spanish Netherlands and are rare in English hoards as the circulation of foreign coins in England was forbidden at the time.

The jury, guided by the coroner, decided that the patard, because it was only 31 per cent fine silver, was not part of the treasure trove. This decision is obviously in line with Lord Denning's decision in the Appeal Court last week (*The Times*, November 19, 1981).

Is it not time, therefore, that, after more than a millennium, the law on treasure trove was revised? This is not purely an academic question as the last decade or so (since the advent of the metal detector) has seen an enormous increase in the number of hoards being found. Lord Denning's ruling and the Dover coroner's court decision show that a complete revision of this Anglo-Saxon law is long overdue if important hoards are not to be divided up and dispersed.

Yours, etc,
TIM TALTON-BROW,
92a Broad Street,
Canterbury,
Kent,
November 25.

Hampstead Heath

From Mr Patrick Cormack, MP for Staffordshire, South-West (Conservative) and others
Sir, You were kind enough to publish a letter in February of last year signed by some of us who care deeply for London's unspoiled heritage of open spaces. Of these, perhaps the most remarkable is Hampstead Heath, both in the way it was created and for its character as a stretch of open country in the city. People from all over London and from further afield come to walk there and to enjoy the views, particularly of the wooded northern slopes which at present remain unscarred by major development.

This unique landscape is at present in jeopardy. A public inquiry is now considering proposals to build an estate of houses in the grounds of Wintonhurst below Highgate Village. Such development would inevitably cause the loss of many mature trees and by urbanising the view, lessen the scale and size of the Heath. This is not just a local issue and, as an indication of the strength of public concern, 18,000 people have signed a petition against building on the Wintonhurst grounds. One hundred and ten years ago an Act of Parliament protected the original Heath from development. Since then, one surrounding area after another has been saved from similar threats and added to the Heath. The Secretary of State now has the opportunity to protect the Heath and its views for the future. May he grasp it.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK CORMACK,
JOHN BETTMAN,
COTTESLOE,
GEORGE LEVY
The Athenaeum, London SW1

Agriculture policy

From Mr G. H. Peters and Mr D. M. Patchett
Sir, The article by Miss Joan Pearce in your issue of November 24 is a welcome addition to the current debate on the perennial problem of Europe's common agricultural policy. Most commentators agree that open-ended price guarantees have resulted in the stockpiling of surpluses which politicians have been loath to recognise, and tackle, because of the constraints under which they operate. Much of the current reform debate centres on adjusting commodity regimes to close off some of the incentive towards overproduction.

Miss Pearce's suggestion that an approach should be made more directly by a sharp price cut ameliorated by direct income support is a more radical alternative which has also received strong support, among others, by Mrs Barbara Castle in a recent European Parliament debate. Germany is also advocating similar proposals.

Advocacy, however, needs to be matched with practicality. The problem, quite simply, is that there is no clear-cut definition of the right quality for support. Farming is an activity which is very commonly part-time and which can be associated with a wide range of other activities. Consequently a reduction in farm profitability can simply alter the mix of activity without precipitating a long-term income problem.

It is no simple matter in such circumstances to identify a particular group of "farmers" who are uniquely deserving of special support — are they distinguished by age, region, type of farming or size of holding, and there is to be some maximum of time or income associated with

Faults in trains

From Mr I. M. Campbell
Sir, I would like to correct the extremely damaging and wholly unjustifiable comment in *The Times* on Monday, November 16 in an article about the twenty-fifth anniversary of the magazine *New Scientist*. In this it is stated that the magazine this year "disclosed a crucial design fault in British Rail's advanced passenger train".

As I wrote to the *New Scientist* at the time of their alleged disclosure: "Contrary to the claim made by John Stansell and Mick Hamer in their article about BR's Advanced Passenger Train ('This Week', March 12, 1979), an APT at full 90 deg tilt in either direction is within the train's 'kinematic envelope', the space the train occupies above the tracks when in motion. So the 'elementary design fault' postulated does not exist."

Yours faithfully,
I. M. CAMPBELL, Vice Chairman,
British Railways Board,
Euston Square,
PO Box 100, NW1,
November 18.

Romney Marsh

From Michael Nightingale
Sir, In September the last resident clergyman amongst the rural parishes of Romney Marsh retired and is not to be replaced. This event has heralded a crisis for the Marsh. On Sunday I visited all 13, which included Eastbridge, Hope and Midley, deserted long ago, whose ruins point a warning finger to the others. Snare is now "redundant" and of the remaining nine, Exmouth, Burghall, Burghall, Fairfield, Ivychurch, Newchurch, Old Romney, St Mary in the Marsh and Snargate, it was only at Burmarsh that any service was held on that day.

Anyone listening to the debate in the House of Commons on November 11 on the excellent report "Churches and Visitors" would have noticed how many speakers could only see churches in areas of falling population as "redundant" plans. Can a holy place built to the glory of God really become redundant?

The churches of Romney Marsh were not built to serve a large population, which has never been there, but perhaps to stand as a thank-offering for one of the most fertile and productive soils in the country. This very point was made by the Bishop of Dover to the members of the Kent Synod in 1879 when they visited Romney Marsh in 1879 (sic), at a period of zealous restoration.

It is often the parochial financial arrangements that are demanded and redundant, not the buildings. Instead of closing historic churches we should explore more imaginative methods of finance and administration for them. To this end I understand an open meeting is to be held at Ivychurch on Saturday, December 5, at 2.30 pm in the church. A trust may be set up and other steps taken to ensure that these remarkable churches are saved for posterity.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL NIGHTINGALE,
Chairman, Churches Committee,
Kent Archaeological Society,
Wentworth Court,
Stingbourne,
Kent.

Wheehair at cinemas

From the Venerable Derek Hayward
Sir, Before the Year of the Disabled ends may I bring to your attention one of the problems which they face? My son, aged 15, is in a wheelchair but is a keen devotee of athletics and we naturally wanted to take him to see *Chariots of Fire*. We consulted your excellent Preview to find out where it was on and then attempted to ring up the cinema to see whether or not wheelchairs would be accepted. Alas, all we could get was a pre-recorded announcement which made no mention of wheelchairs.

The story does have a happy ending because, after a great deal of trouble, we eventually discovered another telephone number, but it took us the best of an hour to do so, by which time it was almost, though not quite, too late to take him there.

Is it too much to hope that in future cinemas, and indeed all places of entertainment, could use either the wheelchair symbol, or perhaps the wheelchair symbol with a bar through it, to show whether or not they can accept disabled people?

Yours hopefully,
DEREK HAYWARD,
All Saints' Vicarage,
61 Church Street,
Old Islington,
Middlesex.

After Scarman

From Lady Plowden and Mrs Juliet Baxter
Sir, We welcome Lord Scarman's recommendation for "a greater provision of playgroups" — particularly important in place like Brixton. Already our association is involved in supporting multiracial groups — six PPA playgroups and seven mother and toddler groups in the area between the Oval and central Brixton. We recognise the necessity to develop our work, and are anxious to do so; this, however, requires the combination of experienced playgroup workers and the support of the statutory authorities.

Unfortunately Inner London PPA can only afford two part-time advisers and two part-time peripatetic leaders to cover the whole of Lambeth, not just Brixton. Lambeth PPA branch, recently applied for funding for a scheme for an extended hours day group, but sadly have had their request refused by the Inner City Partnership.

Lord Scarman also seeks the greater involvement of mothers in their children's education — the whole of PPA's development is founded on the involvement of parents. Through our playgroup courses West Indian mother helpers have grown in confidence and gone on to become playgroup leaders, one a home visitor.

We believe that playgroups are a source of strength and education both for the under-fives and their parents, including those from single-parent families.

Yours faithfully,
BRIDGET PLOWDEN,
President, Pre-School Playgroup Association,
JULIET BAXTER,
Chairman, PPA National Executive Committee,
Pre-School Playgroup Association,
Alford House,
Aveline Street, SE11.

Brideshead at Bodleian

From Dr A. J. Croft
Sir, My colleague, Mr Edward Wilson (November 19), tucked away in that delicious backwater Worcester College, has evidently not heard that universities in general and even this University are grievously short of money. If Granada or any other solvent business organisation were to offer my own department real money in return for very little inconvenience, I am sure that we would jump at the chance.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. CROFT,
20 Farks Road,
Oxford.

Pressure for change in sentencing

From Mr Darcus Howe
Sir, It would appear that your leader writer wrote the editorial (November 26) before reading my contribution. Having been informed that I was invited to contribute, he undoubtedly felt that I would accuse Lord Scarman of performing a whitewash job. I am sorry to have disappointed him.

What other reason is there for accusing me of "throwing the word 'whitewash' at the report?" The term appears in direct quotes. Your readers will have seen that the word whitewash does not appear anywhere in my article (November 26), neither is it implied.

I contended that Lord Scarman "failed to grasp the picture" and I offered reasons as to why I thought that was so.

Volgar prejudice. It becomes the leader writer of the *Illustrated Times*.

Yours faithfully,
DARCUS HOWE,
Editor, *Race Today*,
74 Shakespeare Road, SE24.

Saturday Review



Wystan at the wedding

By Walter Allen

One day in 1936 John Hampson and Therese Giehse (above, centre) were married at Solihull register office. Walter Allen was the best man, and the poet Louis MacNeice (right) conceded the literary rights to him... But the man the day really belonged to was W. H. Auden.

After I graduated [in 1932, from Birmingham University] I set up shop as a writer. In retrospect, I am astonished at my recklessness. But I knew no writers, and there was no-one to warn me of the hazardousness of the enterprise. It seemed the obvious, even the natural thing to do. In those days, there were virtually no jobs for arts graduates except in teaching, and teaching jobs were not easy to come by because the Depression had begun. I did not make a good living, which at that time I put at four pounds a week as a minimum, but I didn't starve. I am surprised by how well I did. I was lucky that Birmingham had two morning and two evening papers. I remember I sold an article on Auden to the *Birmingham Gazette*. I think not to his pleasure, but the quotations, I think, were good enough. And then I was broadcasting on BBC Midlands Region. My ambitions as a broadcaster went beyond reading my own children's stories at the microphone. I found no difficulty in writing them, but it was plain that at a guinea-and-a-half a time it was no way to become rich. I suggested I should write and broadcast a talk in the evening programme on new midland authors. The suggestion was accepted, and I learned I would be paid four guineas. One of my authors was Auden, and I wrote to him asking if he would see me. I sent him a copy of my script, and he replied that he would.

I had bought his first collection, *Poems*, published in a sugar-bag-blue paper cover at two shillings, as soon as it appeared. I had read no poetry like it before. It was reading Auden that finally cured me of trying to write poetry myself, for after reading him I found I could write nothing except pale carbon copies of his work. I could achieve his mannerisms but no more. That was common enough: he gave me, as he did so many young writers of the time, an entirely new vocabulary, new terms of reference, new ways of looking at the world. *Poems* changed the poetic landscape of

Graves and of how I had tried to write a book on the poetry of Ezra Pound and had found myself defeated. I was with him about two hours, I suppose. It was all curiously like a tutorial. When I left, he lent me *Ulysses* in the original edition, the first book of Pound's *Cantos*, Graves's new collection and the bound manuscript of Isherwood's *The Memorial*. It was a generous action, typical, I think, of Auden and his attitudes to life and people at this time.

I was never a friend of his but during the next three or four years I saw Auden many times. He was very much the great man who dropped in among us from time to time. He was a schoolmaster no longer, but working with the Post Office Film Unit and often he was in Birmingham at his parents' home. He wrote in his "Letter to Lord Byron", "and on my heart I always have stamped on."

The view from Birmingham to Wolverhampton, but I don't think he regarded himself as a Birmingham man. He was born at York and, as his life shows, he was at home anywhere, in Berlin, London, New York, Ischia, Austria, Oxford.

He was remarkably self-contained, and though, as he said again, remembering his childhood, in the "Letter to Lord Byron", "I like to see the various types of boy", other people were necessary to him only in the way that fossils in rocks are to a geologist.

Auden owed much to his father, from whom a great deal of the furniture of his mind came. He was a doctor, Medical Officer for Special Schools in the City of Birmingham and Professor of Public Health in the university. At an early age he had come under the influence of Freud; he was also an archaeologist, and he had been president of the Classical Association. His varied interests filtered down to Wystan and informed his early poetry.

I have said that Auden was very much the great man among us. This may be misleading. It was we who saw him as the great man; he did not behave like one. He astonished us as much by his unconventionality as by his energy and we recognised him as a law to himself. I remember a trivial example, which certainly cut across the way we had been taught to behave.

He was with us one evening in The Hope and Anchor, a pub opposite the now demolished Mason College, wolfing — it seems the appropriate word for the way in which he ate — a ham sandwich when the ham fell

out on the sawdust-strewn floor; immediately, still eating, he dived under the table, retrieved the ham and crammed it into his mouth.

A few days later, I reported the incident to John Hampson, for whom it was merely further evidence of the effect on them of the poor, inadequate food on which, he asserted, public school boys were fed. You could always tell a public-school boy, John maintained, by the ravenous way he wolfed his food. "They are always hungry", he said.

One of Auden's favourite tricks at this time, I recall, was to pretend, especially when travelling on the top of a bus, that he had a cleft palate; he conducted long and elaborate conversations in a very loud, painfully garbled voice oblivious of the compassionate stares of the passengers. I have learned since that "Strawpeter" was his favourite poetry as a child and I suspect that its influence was never far away from him throughout his life.

Some of his sayings passed into our mythology. Once, after visiting a man whose wife we disliked because she was self-opinionated and given to rebuk-

ing in public her husband, who was a lecturer in the university, he dropped in on us in the Hope and Anchor. He was in a state of considerable excitement. "He'll cut her hands off", he told us. "One day, he'll cut her hands off."

My abiding memory of Auden and his behaviour is as he was on the occasion of John Hampson's wedding. I saw him as it were in full display; it was as though aspects of him that appear in the early poems and particularly the *The Orators* had taken dramatic form.

This must have been in 1936. He was of course homosexual and at this time he did not bother to disguise it much, though in later life he was more discreet. He had married Erika, Thomas Mann's daughter, in order to provide her with a British passport. It somehow seemed typical of him that the woman he had done this service for should have been the daughter of the most illustrious of living novelists.

He persuaded John, who was homosexual, that he should marry Erika. Mann's friend Therese Giehse, an actress and a very fine one, later associated with Brecht and the Berliner Ensemble and at this time running an anti-Nazi cabaret in Zurich for which Auden wrote some satirical sketches.

Hampson asked me what I thought of Wystan's suggestion. He was obviously wistfully attracted by its romantic appeal. I said all the conventional things; I advised caution; later, he might discover he wasn't homosexual, fall in love with a woman and want to marry in a real sense.

Now I see my advice as comic: Hampson was ten years older than I and knew incomparably more of life. He listened to me and said: "Wystan says, 'What are buggers for?'" I knew I was defeated. Put in that form, Auden's appeal, I realised, was irresistible.

The marriage took place in the register office at Solihull, a posh suburb of Birmingham two stations down the line from where John lived. We were to meet, the bride and witnesses, under the clock at Snow Hill Station at nine in the morning.

Reggie Smith and I were there first, and at nine precisely Auden and Louis MacNeice arrived with Therese, who was clutching an enormous bouquet, between them. She did not match my naive and young Anglo-Saxon expectation of what an actress should look like: in other words, I thought her disappointingly plain and dumpy.

Auden was very much in charge of the party and very much in his prep. school or

scoutmaster vein. At the ticket office he put down a five-pound note and bought the tickets. In the train he produced a ring from his waistcoat pocket, gave it to me, for I was to be best man, and admonished me not to lose it. He was very excited; one felt it was his day more than John's. In the train, except for shooting a few words of German at Therese, who spoke no English as the rest of us, apart from Wystan, spoke no German, he talked solely to MacNeice.

At Solihull station, John, also clutching an enormous bunch of flowers, was waiting for us. He was very tense and nervous; he was terrified he might be seen by friends of his employers, who knew nothing of the marriage. Auden took over completely. In a voice that had become high-pitched he demanded a taxi of astonished porters. He might have been enacting a parody of one of his own "short-haired mad executives". He was very conspiratorial.

A taxi having been found, he disposed of us inside it. He was the supreme master of logistics. "Solihull register office," he ordered, with the urgency and in the tone that characters in Edwardian spy-stories say: "A sovereign, my man, if you can reach Victoria in time for the boat-train." Anti-climax followed, for the register office proved to be not much more than a hundred yards from the station.

Anden leading, we climbed the stairs of the municipal building into the register office. Peremptorily, he demanded of the clerk: "Is this where marriages take place?" It was. "And which gentleman is the groom?" the clerk enquired mildly. Auden the circus-master produced John as from a hat. "The clerk turned to John: 'And may I have the bride's full name, Mr Simpson?'" Auden answered.

"And her father's profession or occupation, Mr Simpson?" "Merchant", answered Auden. "And her place of birth, Mr Simpson?" "Lubeck, Germany", answered Auden at a restaurant, the Burlington, where a table was waiting for us. Wystan was fairly dripping with the money, and under his encouragement we ate and drank lavishly.

At two-thirty he got up and said: "I must get back to work," and summoned the waiter. He took a wad of notes from his pocket. When he had paid the waiter he said philosophically: "It's all on Thomas Mann."

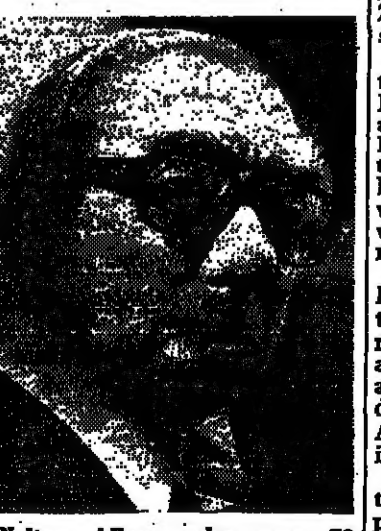
We went our different ways, Auden I assume to his curtained artificially-lighted room in his parents' house in the Jordewood Road, Harborne, Reggie to the University and I to my office. Louis took John and Therese to the Fumist Cinema in John Bright Street for their honeymoon.

When the show was over, bride and groom walked back to Snow Hill, for John had to catch the 6.30 train. Just before it departed, Therese slipped away, to return as the train was beginning to pull out, with a bottle of Scotch, which she pushed into John's hands.

It proved to be a very happy marriage. Husband and wife saw each other only rarely and during the war years not at all, for Therese was in Switzerland. John was always very proud of her, and I think there was genuine communion between them.

© Walter Allen 1981

From *As I Walked Down New Grub Street: Memories of a Writing Life by Walter Allen, which is to be published on Monday by Heinemann at £8.95*



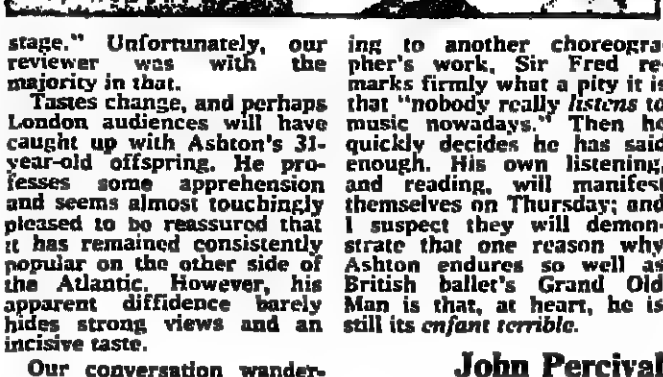
Walter Allen, who was 70 earlier this year, is one of the Grand Old Men of English Literature. Some write novels. Some write criticism. Some teach English. Very few manage to do all three things well. Walter Allen is one of the few. His masterpiece novel, *All in a Lifetime*, is an old man's view of his past. His classic work of literary criticism, *The English Novel*, is still used by university departments. In February he published *The Short Story in English*. His whole life has enriched and been enriched by books and bookmen.



Front line

ated by Rimbaud during the war; not only his poetry but his character. Then he heard Britten's setting of *Les Illuminations* and at once asked the composer's per-

plaining that, although "presumably aware of the mixed beauty and grossness of Rimbaud's life and work," "our critic" could only recognize grossness on



John Percival

By far the best performance comes from Yori Mazurok who lands the right hook of villainy to Count di Luna as well as a rock-solid vocal line, and Robert Lloyd as Ferrando. Mazurok appears in next month's Covent Garden *Trovatore* revival, and he will be well worth hearing. Those who prefer their Verdi on record would do well to stick with the RCA set under Mehta with Domingo and Milnes near the start of their careers.

triumph, of which he had plenty in his life, always comes over in his art as vain Zawa's habit of delivering

the keen textural balance throughout, even though that balance is scarcely constant. What is less easy to accept is

is more than that, and so to the orchestra and Daniel Barenboim. But the Berlioz is good.

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Sir Fr

Ballet's enfant terrible on Thursday

Part of a choreographer's job is knowing how best to move a body from one place to another within the available time. This weekend finds Sir Frederick Ashton stupored, for once, by that problem. Luckily, it is one that concerns him off stage, not his dancers.

Next Thursday is the night when he finds himself with two irreconcilable premieres. Covent Garden has his Rimbaud ballet, *Illuminations*; by the time the audience there is leaving, people in New York will already be getting out their black ties for the other Ashton premiere at the Met. There is simply no way to be at both.

"They keep ringing me up from New York," he says, "telling me they need me there; telling me" (and here he puts on an American accent) "that this is only a revival; this is a world premiere. But it's more important for me to be here."

The New York event, one of the biggest nights of the season is the Metropolitan Opera's Stravinsky triple bill with John Dexter and David Hockney expected to repeat the triumph of last season's double-act as director and designer. Ashton's contribution to that is the dances which Natalia Makarova and Anthony Dowell are to perform in *Le Rossignol*.

Those have turned out to be much more than the little duet which most people — Ashton included — had supposed. "They kept adding bits, you will see, and now

Verdi: Il trovatore. Ricciardi/Locysia/Carreras / Masurkovsky. Covent Garden. Philips 6769 063 (3 discs). £75.54.

Puccini: Tosca. Scotti/Domingo/Bruson / Philharmonia / Levine. EMI SLS 5213 (2 discs). £ TCCLSL 5213.

Sir Colin Davis and his Covent Garden forces have been hard at work. Close on the heels of their *Werther* for Philips last month comes a *Trovatore* on the same label. Davis's obvious sympathy for the Massenet score and the way he inspired his principals to take a similar view made *Werther* the opera set of the year for me. By its side *Trovatore* is a disappointment.

Davis was conducting Verdi's opera way back in his Sadler's Wells days, but he still takes a fairly cool and at times almost detached view of the music. There is much beautiful playing from the Covent Garden orchestra, often employing quite slow tempo, but a lack of gut reaction to the rawness and sheer physicality of the *Trovatore* score. The opera needs singers in prime condition and in this Philips set one or two of them sound a shade below their usually excellent best.

Liszt: Orchestral works. Leipzig Gewandhaus / Masurkovsky. EMI ASD 480. SLS 5236 (4 discs). £52.36 (4 discs).

Mahler: Symphony No. 1. Soloists, choir, Boston SO / Ozawa. Philips 6769 063 (2 discs). £75.54.

Bruckner: Symphony No. 6. Dresden: Staatskapelle / Jochum. EMI ASD 480.


Chostakovich: Symphony No. 5. Vienna PO / Chailly. Decca SXDL 7533; £ KSXDC 7533.

Lalo: Symphonie espagnole / Serlino: Réverie et caprice. Perlman, Paris Orchestra / Barenboim. DG 2532. 011; £ 3302 011.

Folly and grandeur burst from the loudspeakers: Liszt is back in fashion. Within the last months we have had a most profound recording of late Lisztian works from the hands of a comprehensive selection of the songs from Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau and Daniel Barenboim. Now, the most wonderful of all, comes an anthology of orchestral pieces including "almost everything except the works played with solo piano, and performed with furious passion: power, warmth and sweet-

Federick Aschton

as well as grand old man,
one in London, the other



Front line

is a full ballet lasting 22 minutes." All the same, Sir Ashton is confident that such producers can fend for themselves. They had all their theatricals in London and now what is required, besides, Dowell at least has something else to occupy his mind, as he is also to be the narrator in *Oedipus Rex*.

If Ashton is unable to get off for a later performance, it will not be the first of his cancellations. He has failed to perform. He had to miss his 1939 creation for Met Russe de Monte Carlo, *Diabla s'amuse*, because of outbreak of war caused premier to be transferred from London to New York.

For the moment, Ashton's concern has to be the production of *Illuminations*. That has a New York connection too, having been commissioned by New York City Ballet in 1950. They brought it to London that year and had a very busy welcome in some quarters.

Ashton had become fascinated by Rimbaud during the war; not only his poetry but character. Then he heard Stravinsky's setting of *Les amants* and at once recognized the composer's perception of the impulsive nature of Rimbaud.

Rimbaud proved the Cythreanist of woe from his characters, that he could be a namesake. By the end of side of *Trojan* there are still questions mark over the name. In *Mazurka*, "Di qualla" are sung with the right rhythm, but elsewhere it all seems quite an effort and the impulsiveness of *Stravinsky* is part of *Mazurka*'s charm. Ricciardi has given us stages that show the best Leonora of the past, despite some unglorified florid singing. It is no great sparkle. *Leonora* is light-hearted casting for *Arsenica*, none of the mystery and nodding a Barbieri or a nonso used to bring to part.

Far the best performances come from Yuri Mazurok who leads the right kind of wiliness to the role as well as a rock-solid line, and Robert Lloyd Ferrando. Mazurok appears in next month's Covent Garden *Trojan*: revival, Southernland as Leonora, he will be well worth seeing. Those who prefer Verdi on record would tell to stick with the RCA under Mehta with Dominick Milnes near the start of their careers.

In charge of lack of guts

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RECORDS

John Higginson

Anvils out

Three seasons ago at the Metropolitan Opera, Carreras proved the Cythreanist of woe from his characters, that he could be a namesake. By the end of side of *Trojan* there are still questions mark over the name. In *Mazurka*, "Di qualla" are sung with the right rhythm, but elsewhere it all seems quite an effort and the impulsiveness of *Stravinsky* is part of *Mazurka*'s charm. Ricciardi has given us stages that show the best Leonora of the past, despite some unglorified florid singing. It is no great sparkle. *Leonora* is light-hearted casting for *Arsenica*, none of the mystery and nodding a Barbieri or a nonso used to bring to part.

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Paul Griffiths

Nazi back in



Kurt Masur

says only Siegfried, as clear, clearly thought when asked to remember the work in composing early music of his own.

Ashton

with two premieres in New York

...ion to make a ballet of it. ...to be announced for ...ent Garden, with Berard ...gns, but abandoned when ...d died.

...ell Bostwood eventually ...igned it and, Ashton says, ...reason he must be ...nd at the revival is that ...w I have to act for ...of it." So he has been ...ing at photographs and ...ns of the original pro ...ion and making sure that ...details are right.

...s choreography was ...ally taught to the Royal ...t dancers by John Taras, ...of New York City. ...City ...s ballet-masters, on ...n Balanchine also relies ...remember his old works.

Fred admits that he ...self has "polished up ...a things" — which has to ...nterpreted bearing in ...of his habit of understate ...where his own work is ...rned.

...the leading role, Ashton ...picked one of the most ...d of the Royal Ballet's ...g men, Ashley Page. ...t to be one of the young ...s. "Nicholas Magal ...wasn't really young ...ough in the original pro ...ion, though he looked ...beautiful."

...the last time *Illusions* ...given in London, New ...City Ballet's director, ...n Kirstein, was so ...ressed at the review in *The* ...s that he wrote com ...ments that, although "pre ...bly aware of the mixed ...ess and grossness of ...aud's life and work, ...ritic" could only ...prize grossness on ...stage.

...review, ...major ...London ...caught ...year-o ...fesses, ...and so ...pleased ...it has ...popular ...the A ...appears ...hides ...incisive ...Our

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...e levelled at EMI's new ...with James Levine and ...hilarious pulling out the ...multitude of stops pro ...by Puccini, abetted by ...excellent recording. ...has recorded *Tosca* ...n, not long after that ...t into the London, New ...s and Mehta. On EMI ...lands in even fuller and ...voice. Another plus for ...at is the presence of ...o Bruson as Scarpia, a ...e declines to sing on ...because of his refusal ...crazy off his beard. ...s by tradition do not ...beards" but "on the ...ance of this performance ...ough time tradition was ...n.

...weakness: is Renata ...s *Tosca*, at times from ...uncomfortably equally and ...moving great deal of ...t into the character. ...rearily a difficult role to ...at the moment and EMI ...have done better. The ...eared — or maybe ...zhak Perlman turns up ...the *Prisje* ...s Association will be ...to see his union card. ...to some curiosities. ...s *Der Zarewitsch* has ...n on Eurodisc (301 291 ...tical). The story of the ...rains work, including ...n throne who has to be ...ted by a girl dressed ...a boy is fair balder-

...dash. I ...delicate ...favour ...they are ...by Re ...Popp ...No Eng ...On ...launch ...Grand ...or so a ...first b ...issue (...over t ...collect ...Italian ...tape in ...appears ...fresh ...there is ...dating ...which ...by any ...tenor. ...tribute ...country ...items ...release ...ance at ...the Se ...recond ...ment s ...sound ...two ru ...Bellini ...has so ...dating ...appears ...second ...Hall co ...great ...disfigu-

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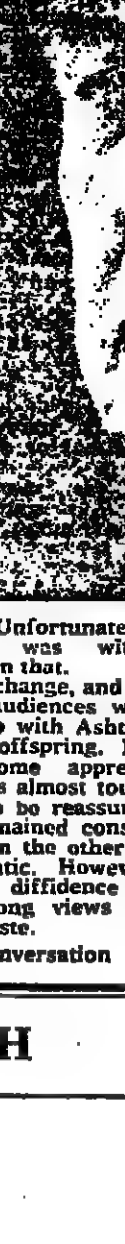
n fashion

...owing, enough to make ...knowing deliberately vulgar ...some the tawdry nature ...lly victory.

...ce his inability to write ...for Dante's *Paradiso*, ...would have needed a ...n, unquestioned ...f. In the *Inferno*, a ...nt search, including ...constant search for ...tives to standard ...s, and more rarely, in ...quiescent of contented ...g. Which reminds me ...e Dante *Symphony* too ...reavellously performed ...with boys from the ...anchorage of Leipzig, ...with its own circle of ...rains work, including ...n *Orpheus* and the ...ntain *symphony* "C ...entend sur la me-

...appreciate Liszt one ...to ignore expecta ...raised by other com ...which means that it ...be absurd to compare ...r work that reaches ...n in a setting of Goethe's ...chorus, Mahler's ...symphony, of which

...the mo ...melodie ...ever to ...The so ...able wi ...Judith ...so, Keu ...of Br ...phony, ...modera ...almost ...Mahler, ...Jochum ...of out ...larity fr ...the fee ...one of s ...and eve ...the mu ...addition ...series, ...for a ...photogr ...Jochum ...like his ...of Be ...song of ...Tchaik ...phony, ...as Bru ...the mu ...Particu ...the A ...Riccard



Unfortunately, our conversation was with the tenor in that. As change, and perhaps a audiences will have up with Ashton's 31- and offspring. He promotes some apprehension seems almost touchingly to be reassured that remained consistently on the other side of the Atlantic. However, his taste in diffidence barely strong views and an taste. conversation wander-

ing to pher's marks fit that "no music is quickly enough, and read themselves I suspect strate that Ashton British Man is still its co-

ut Lehár wrote some le songs for his e tenor Tauber, and e well delivered here e Kolko with Lucia e the *ravesti* Sonja. ish text.

December 4 Decca a series entitled /oci at a moderate £3 disc. The pick of the tch is a Sutherland GRV 1) which gives e first side to a n of English and songs recorded on 1955 and since then, 1955, lost. Disarmingly ing. On GRV 4, a Björling assembly, mainly from 1950- should be snapped up e short of material e the great Swedish

Elisabeth Early Yes (discs). Schumann Leben/Lie Eurodisc Mozart: Quartets. 2740 249

"A brilliant with last answer Lebeth Sch in Vien young wonder a 1950, many four years bert's "S in wha perfectly "Mausfau Hugo Vog new and lation of recording the Archives and 1955. And an faces of Donna a there is Schubert significant assimilate of each breathed, "Porgi and audac the voice Widow. A heder, E operetta, Schwarzk meric abili draw out levels of listener t most enrie

Geoffrey and si responds to I experience und Leben voice mo impetus, point of gi to orna changes to though the voice on was notici dampen t While v complete tets, the from thir six quartern influenced toughening part-writin bursts on



another choreographer. Sir Fred readily what a pity it is today really *listens* to nowadays." Then he decides he has said His own listening, will manifest is on Thursday; and they will demonstrate at one reason why endures as well as Waller's Grand Old that, at heart, he is fant terrible.

John Percival

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Schwarzkopf: The
rs. EMI/RLS 763 (4

: Frauenliebe und
ier. Popp/Parsons.
EMI 298-365.

The Six Haydn
Melos Quartet. DG
(discs).

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 Melos Quartet
 a latest offering
 Mozart series: the
 dedicated to and
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... that Liszt's tragedy
... superhuman
... his orchestral
... which was largely
... ended into the decade after
... be entrusted again
... to the theme
... announced in the subtitle
... symphonic poem "Tasso:
... a triunto." And yes
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... other Romantics, Liszt
... in his element when
... the music was
... imperilled, questioning
... or dead. Public
... of which he had
... in his life, always
... over in his art as vain

other surprisingly, a masterpiece which, in its ideas, strong in content, stern in its face. I have never heard it before, the like of which is so invigorating. It is by Itzhak Perlman in *Symphonie espagnole*—an admirer of Mr. Tchaikovsky though I am, I really accept his self-regard. Right in this work, it takes as a fun game for success or attention. I think more than that, and so orchestra and Daniel Barenboim. But the Berlioz is

THE UNWINS FILE

By Patrick Cunningham

Good Wine and the aid of the party

The French are always inclined to make one feel that the humblest Frenchman knows more about wine than the most knowledgeable Englishman. And as a result, we always offer them the best and the most expensive, out of a misplaced sense of inferiority.

Well, this time I didn't. He did after all arrive unexpectedly, and I was just about to try a range of good, but inexpensive wine. It's called Belle Cave and comes in five bottles as Red, Medium Dry Rosé, Dry White and Medium Sweet White.

And he was very complimentary. The Medium Sweet White was soft and not too sweet. The Dry White made an excellent Kir with Cassis de Dijon but it is also very refreshing on its own. The Rosé, well chilled, had a very clean taste and since he comes from the South of France which is where most rosé is drunk, his approval was knowledgeable. And the Red, as a personal taste, was thought to be excellent.

You may not want to serve it at a dinner party, but it would be excellent for weekday or weekend supper, or at a party where you want to offer acceptable quality coupled with quantity, at a reasonable price. And with Christmas parties just about to begin, what could be better?

Belle Cave
Available at Unwins £2.20.

There are 280 branches of Unwins in London and the Home Counties so there has to be one handy for you.



Come in to your local branch next time you're passing just for a look around. Unwins is a bit special. We're totally independent so we stand or fall by the service we give you.

Which is one of the reasons why we stay open after the others have gone home.

Unwins
Wine Merchants since 1843
We're open when you need us.

Head Office: Birchwood House,
Victoria Road, Dartford, Kent.

Radio/David Wade

Under pressure

The National Health Service, we often hear, is heading for disintegration — a prognosis to be received with caution since experience of other tottering institutions suggests that more likely it will stagger on from crisis to crisis, and a gradual decline will provoke and may even be offset by various schemes of self-help.

The true plight of the NHS is the subject of *Finger on the Pulse*, a three-part documentary made by Brian King for the Birmingham Independent station, BRMB. The first part was heard last Monday, the other two go out within the station's area at weekly intervals thereafter. Already the series has highlighted factors which must to a great extent account for pressures on the service as well as giving some sharp insights into methods of coping and making do. Presumably, it is obvious, begin with the vast number of patients presenting their doctor with minor ills — colds, flu, stomach upsets — which 40 years ago would have been treated for themselves and which almost certainly would clear up unaided.

No doctor can refuse to see such people and plainly there is some pressure to prescribe antibiotics (the patient expects it) and the treatment will probably shorten his discomfort. The discomfort may be only mild, the shortening a matter of a day or two, but never mind. So great is this demand that making shift begins to operate: one practice now issues fact sheets to its patients in the hope of persuading them to undertake a bit of cure-it-yourself. But what will that do for the demand of the unwelcome for a bit of attention? Or indeed the propensity of those starved of attention to become unwell? As one GP remarked: "We are a drug to a lot of patients."

This first programme also told us of problems created by the increasing numbers of the aged occupying beds, the appalling queues for surgery and some gallant coping with inadequate buildings in a Birmingham maternity unit. Throughout the standard of recorded material, both in sound and quality content, has been first class — particularly in the GPs' surgeries where the encounter of doctor and patient were candid and authentic. King's narration was informative and rightly unemotional.

There was a striking and not too happy difference in tone between *Finger on the Pulse* and Capital Radio's *Allergies — Your Hidden Enemy*. Presentation as a narrative duet by Maggie Norden and Robin Blake did not help, adding as it did to that slight tone of show-bizery and marginal gee-whizzery which I have come to associate with Miss Norden's work. Yet the material was important and intensely interesting: even if you moderate the claim of one well-known contributor, Dr Richard Mackarness, that one third of all illnesses have a basis in allergies — the many foods, inhalants, contactants to which the body may react — a possible factor not only in physical but mental illness too, a claim which may be too strong.

Another I.R. station, Radio Clyde has just put out a programme which, like these, may find a wider audience. *Shining Brass* was an account by its members of the work and triumphs of the Kilmarock Area Schools Brass Band.

Television/Michael Church

Mirror images

Two years ago the Gulbenkian Foundation produced a report which strongly criticized television for failing to make contact with teenagers. A few years' freedom from the drug is not necessarily a bad thing, of course, but nobody could deny that the report had a point.

Programmes have since come along to fill the gap. One thinks of the BBC's *Something to Do* by and for the "ordinary" teenagers, and of sundry competent runners from London Weekend Television's *Going Out*, scripted by the author of *Hill* is the most notable recent offering in the genre, and has itself suffered a notable fate. For holding up a mirror all too faithfully to the lives of its protagonists, it has been condemned to appear when its intended audience are certain to be otherwise engaged. Last night ATV broadcast episode four at 10.30 pm; on Sunday Anglia will show episode five at 11.30. Last Monday God sent a thunderbolt carefully aimed at a transmitting mast deprived of sleep by Grandstand of its weekly share.

It seems a shame, but given the ingrained verbal prudishness not only of the media moguls but of the nation at large this fate was clearly inevitable. The language is frequently foul, in a casual sort of way. The young actors are very competent. The world they inhabit, tainted at all levels by the fear of unemployment, is depressingly recognizable. Since, critics have praised the series to the skies, claiming that it has opened their eyes to new realities. That seems praise too high: there is a wilful pessimism about its world-view, and a steady endorsement of the snarling posture which television has helped establish as the obligatory stance for "ordinary" inner-city kids.

Going Out has at least avoided making an outright fetish of working class life, unlike many other pieces of radical drama. Last night's play *The Grudge Fight* (BBC2) sailed into that very trap, with a curiously morbid update of the Tom Brown's Schoolday myth. It tricked the exterior of film plot with flashbacks, interior monologues, and a heavily contrived *deus ex machina*.

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Television/Elkan Allan

Book of the film of the book

discovered when he arrived in Hollywood in 1946, was to film it "purely as a love story."

For the benefit of those denied Granada's stunning book, let me borrow freely from the most fascinating chapter, which treats the work as a *roman à clef* and supplies some of the keys.

First some undeniable characters from life: the cad Rex Mottram, a colonial aristocrat, untouched by spiritual grace, was boldly modelled on Brendan Bracken, politician, publisher, wartime Minister of Information and friend and confidant of Winston Churchill. The malicious portrait of him was an ungrateful reward for pulling the strings to get Captain Waugh leave to write the novel.

The creeping trail of a tutor, the Semprocius of All Souls (John Gielgud), is a portrait admirably based on Sir Maurice Bowra, Warden of Merton College, who smiled a hurt smile and accepted the pointed likeness with grace.

While Anthony Blanche (Nicholas Grace) looked and sounded like Harold Acton (who declared, *The Waste Land*, through a megaphone on the very balcony shown in the serial), his more destructive aspects were taken from the rakish, openly homosexual Brian Howard, who killed himself in 1947.

As for the central family, Waugh had close connections with the two sons of Lord Beauchamp of Oxford, the younger, Hugh Lygon, later, ducced him to the more exotic aspects of undergraduate life and then took him to the family seat at Madresfield, with its private chapel. There he met and won a lifelong friendship with the daughters of the family, and there he eventually learned that Lord Beauchamp had been compelled by a scandal (homosexual) to live abroad.

At least part of Sebastian's character, however, came from Waugh's own constant companion of Oxford days, Alistair Graham, whom he described as "the friend of my heart" until Graham's mother sent him on travels to North Africa, Greece and the Levant. And Julia must have owed a great deal to Olivia Plunkett-Greene, whom Waugh described as "a little crazy; truth-loving and in the end holy."

Charles Ryder, shared with his creator being a disappointed middle-aged army captain, a politician, a past with at least some striking similarities; Waugh's first ambitions were to be a painter, although that aspect of Ryder owes more to Rex Whistler — a parallel pointed up in the glimpses we are permitted of Ryder's murals.

The television production follows the novel in being deliberately vague about the homosexual aspects of Sebastian's relationship with Charles, but memoirs of the Oxford of the time are more forthcoming. Christopher Hollis explained its pervasiveness on the grounds that undergraduates came from the monastic confinement of school straight into university society from which women were effectively barred. They "had few inhibitions about their exploits and confessed their amours to one another."

Anthony Powell contrasts the proctor's casual indifference to homosexuality with the stern warning he received for charring up a waitress in the High.

So now you can return to our mutual Tuesday addition with inside knowledge. If you very much want one of Granada's beautiful companion books, you could try writing to their press office at 10, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF. They have been selling a few at the exhibition of photographs they are caring round the country at a below cost price of £3.95.

Collectors' Diary/Geraldine Norman

The one-year-old antique

Down in the basement of Christie's we all admired it. James Spencer was showing off an example of the latest breed of fake Chinese ceramics, a Ming-style vase, a frequently foul, in a casual sort of way.

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and it would hardly show," said James. "Holes are in these days," said Teddy Hall, robustly. "You must have a hole to prove it's genuine. Mind you, you also need a hole to prove it's the results of the test."

If, as in this case, it is wrong, you have a hole without a certificate. The special interest of the vase, which belongs to a large, very high quality, new group of fakes, James Spencer says that he first ran across them in Singapore, earlier this year and they probably have a Malayan origin. The explanation given for their outstandingly perfect condition, by dealers in Singapore, is that they have been recently recovered from a shipwreck. Bizarre!

William Birch Robinson is a collector of antique illustrations in having lived to see his name enter the English language as a universally accepted adjective. He sprang to fame during the First World War with his humorous interpretation of the German machines of war. He worked for *The Sketch*, *The Bystander* and *The Illustrated London News* during the war. There has long been a strong market in the original black-and-white drawings of all periods — he lived until 1944 and the war drawings are the most sought-after.

A private collector who owns seven fine examples has dreamed up a means of making them available to a wider public. Using photography he has printed facsimiles of his drawings on to a high quality, mould-made paper. They are of high quality, almost indistinguishable from the originals. The drawings themselves would command prices around £800 to £1,000 a time, but the facsimiles are being marketed at £11.50 each by the book dealer, Charles Sawyer, of 1 Grafton Street, London, W1.

Titles include such charms as "Washing day on a Zepherus," "Count Zeppelin's evening classes for bomb droppers" and "For deceiving Nazi divers-bombers as to the centre of gravity."

Wax models have been made by sculptors since the days of antiquity often as a preparation for a bronze cast, but also as works of art in their own right. As a medium for portraiture wax reliefs were particularly popular in the eighteenth century. Collectors will therefore welcome the publication of E. J. Pyke of a *Supplement to his Important Reference work, A Biographical Dictionary of Wax Modellers*. It covers some 30 new public collections, 80 private collections and identifies 700 new wax modellers. 500 copies are available from E. J. Pyke, 53 Ladbroke Road, London W11, price £16.50 plus 75p postage and packing.

Bridge/Jeremy Flint

Britain bowled out

The USA retained the Bermuda Bowl, the world team championship, defeating Pakistan in the final by 24 points to 19. Even before the conclusion of the round robin qualifying stage, the Americans had proved they were worthy favourites, an impression reinforced by their convincing semi-final victory over Poland, the European champions.

The Pakistan team, playing in their first world championship, were the surprise of the tournament. After a slow start, they finished strongly to take second place in the round robin, and reached the final with a good win over Argentina. Although the margin in the final was convincing, Pakistan were the lead in the final, a parallel pointed up in the glimpses we are permitted of Ryder's murals.

Although the result was disappointing, we should look back on the events that led up to the championship to put it in perspective. After a brief and inconclusive trial, the British Bridge League chose three pairs with no common affinity to play in the European Championship in Birmingham. Three of the players had no previous championship experience at all. Yet the team exceeded all expectations by grimly clinging to second place to earn Britain the right to play in the Bermuda Bowl, an honour which has eluded stronger and infinitely more experienced British teams for 17 years.

The British Bridge League now faces a difficult decision. To introduce Friday and Rodriguez, a pair of proven world class, would strengthen the team immeasurably. Indeed, in a year when the opposition appeared to be tumbling, the usual substitution of Friday and Rodriguez possibly would have given Britain a favourable chance. On the other hand, this change in the team would mean discarding players who had performed so creditably in Birmingham.

The League's decision to rely on the same team was controversial, but understandable. That is more than can be said for a pitifully ineffectual reaction to the World Bridge Federation's ban on Terence Reese, the British non-playing captain. Many felt that Britain should not have accepted this rebuff.

The relevance of this historical review emerges when we look at the last day of play in Port Chester, New York. Predictably, the two senior British pairs had played the majority of the boards and, as might have been expected, fatigue had begun to take its toll. In the penultimate match against Poland, one pair, possibly because they were tired, had a minor disagreement which temporarily disturbed the harmony needed for bridge at this level. Despite the scolding remarks of the captain, Gus Calderwood, they thought they would benefit from a session's rest. It is no criticism of Calderwood to suggest that Reese might possibly have restored peace more quickly. After all, it is only human to accept

advice more readily from a man who is 20 years your senior than from one 20 years your junior. Whether different administrative decisions would have provided a British victory, it is hard to say. But it is unlikely that Britain will have a better chance of winning a world championship for years.

Here is the ill-fated board 32 of the last match in the round robin.

Britain v Argentina. East-West game. Dealer West.

Board 72. Loss: all. Dealer West.

W. Flint, M. Macdonald, E. Flint, S. Rowell.

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The Antique Dealer & COLLECTORS GUIDE DECEMBER ISSUE — PUBLISHED TODAY

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PRESENTS FOR CHILDREN

Game for anything

Age 1 to 10: Building bricks are among the most creative toys for young children and one of the most versatile sets is made in beautifully smooth natural beech by Beaver Toys. It is a modular system with a good variety of shapes which will make curving roads and bridges as well as all sorts of buildings. Set of 46 bricks £6.98, plus 98p p&p; set of 100 bricks (more bricks are always better) £12.98 plus £1.60 p&p — illustrated, right, with Dinky toys and farm animals from Hamleys. Bricks from Beaver Toys, Marlborough, Wiltshire, telephone 0672 53759.

Age 6 to 16: Fun rubber stamps to decorate cards, backs of envelopes and probably dirty knees. The outlines are a joggling bear, beetle, small fly, owl, frog, fat pig, juicy strawberry and kissing lips. Or there are slogans: Happy... to you. Will you... and TOP SECRET. 99p each. Red or black ink pads also 99p. From Tiger Tiger, 219 Kings Road, SW3, or by mail order (add 20p p&p) from Robar

Ltd, 7 Shalcomb Street, London SW10.

Age 10 to 16: Yes and Know invisible ink booklets full of quizzes and games, general knowledge questions, bingo, battleships. Guess the answers, fill in the blanks with the special pens provided and "Yes" or "No" will appear under your felt tip. Another version, "Mr. Mystery Secret Agent" is on the same lines but aimed at budding secret agents (CIA rather than MI5 as it is an American publication). Each costs 95p from larger branches of Boots. For other stockists telephone Edward Goolnick, 01-348 4454.

Age 12 to 16: Two-channel walkie talkie, the Harrier WT1, that works on the same channels as CB radio so you can not only talk to a friend with another walkie talkie, but also to any passing CB user — £24.99. And if you don't know what smoochy bears, rubber duck, one four for a copy, and flies in the sky means, the Big CB Guide to CB will explain all the jargon. £2.99. Both from all branches of Dixons.



Above, the proposed interior decoration of York House, Pall Mall, 1759. One of the set of three prints of work by Sir William Chambers from the Royal Institute of British Architects. Left, baked beans note pad, £1.60 (80p p & p), black and white Perspex nutcracker, £2.70 (60p p & p) and clear Perspex paper knife, £1.50 (30p p & p), all from Peter Knight, High Street, Esher, and London End, Beaconsfield.

FOR MEN

Give him a ring

For collectors, a set of three facsimile prints of drawings by eighteenth-century architect Sir William Chambers of a triumphal arch at Wilton House, 1753, the proposed interior decoration of York House, 1759 and an unexecuted design for an entrance gate to Sherborne Castle 1758. They have been reproduced on textured paper, 16 1/2 in x 23 1/2 in, from rare works in the collection of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Only 500 prints of each print will be made and each set costs £35 including p&p from RIBA drawings office, 66 Portland Place, London W1N 4AD.

Miller's Antique Price Guide — 669 pages of descriptions, valuations and helpful "junk"-ing. The new 1982 edition costs £9.95 in bookshops or is available, with £1.20 p&p, from MJM Publications Ltd, Pugin's Hall, Finchden Manor, Tenterden, Kent. Telephone Tenterden 2234.

Wilkinson Sword Tree Lopper for pruning branches up to 2 1/2 in diameter, £15.65 and 2 1/2 in bow saw for even thicker branches, £6.50. Both excellent quality and easy to handle, as I found when I did a spot of deforestation in my own garden. From Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W1.

Cordless hand-held telephone to take into the garage, garden — even the bath. The control box plugs into the wall and you can

make or receive calls within 250 yards of it. The EMP 4003 is one of the least expensive at £125 (£2 p&p) from Sylvia's, 25 Beauchamp Place, London SW3.

Vive Le Sport by Christopher Curtis. A wicked look in prose and verse at various forms of field sports and sportsmen, wittily illustrated by John Tickner, £2.95 (40p p&p). Slip in a slide calculator with 100 recipes for cocktails — ingredients printed on the outside, sliding centre gives the quantities needed for a riotous selection including Absinthe Bracer and Snap Tooth Nell. £2.50 (14p p&p). Both these from Sylvia's.

Key Buoy — a covered polystyrene foam ring with key ring attached. Will float if it falls overboard. £1.95 (60p p&p) from Peter Knight, High Street, Esher or London Road, Beaconsfield. If you are absolutely desperate for ideas — get someone else to do the thinking. Parrots will fill one of their red Christmas sacks, emblazoned with tree, santa and gold-plated name, with 12, 18 or 25 gift wrapped presents for £16, £26 or £100. Simply tell them the age, sex and interests of the recipient. Parrots, whose catalogue is available for £1, are at 56 Fulham Road, London SW3 6EH. Orders by phone, 01-583 3325. Last orders in theory December 10, although they do go on sending up to Christmas Eve.



Newest recruits to the cuddly toy zoo — endearing chipmunk mother 14in high, £18.99, baby 10in high, £10.99 from Harrods.

FOR EVERYONE

Painting your house

Tessa Henderson is a young artist who specialises in an increasingly fashionable subject — house portraits. Trained as an interior designer, she soon realised that she really preferred the outdoors to the indoors and began to concentrate on one line drawings of beautiful houses.

Her subjects range from cottages in Suffolk to castles in Scotland and she offers an additional printing service once the drawing is complete — she will have it reproduced for you on letter heads, cards, even wine or jam labels.

The cost of the original drawing ranges from £75 to £250 depending on the amount of time required. Letter heads are £92.50 for the first 500 (with envelopes) £32 for the second 500, greetings cards are £105 for 500, post cards £88 for 500.

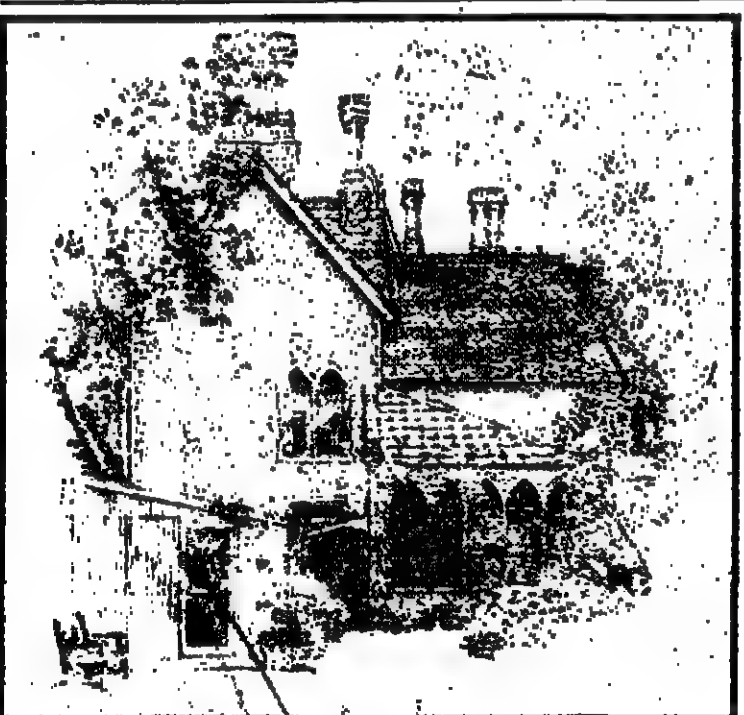
The labels can be done as an addition to any of these but not on their own. A special package includes 500 sheets of headed paper with envelopes, 250 continuation sheets, 500 greetings

cards and envelopes, large self adhesive labels and small labels for the tops of cards or envelopes. All this costs £270.

Such intricate work does of course take time, so not all commissions could be completed before Christmas, but I should imagine anyone would be willing to wait for such a gift. But another speciality of Tessa's could be finished in time — a miniature portrait of a favourite toy.

This ball started rolling when she drew a portrait of a teddy bear as a present for a small child and it was so popular that she was inundated with requests for pictures of other loved animals. These are all line drawings with watercolour and measure about 2 1/2 in x 3 1/2 in — if you produce the toy and a frame she will make the drawing to fit.

For more details telephone Tessa Henderson on 01-340 2028 or 727 4143. If you really want something special in time for Christmas she will try to rearrange her schedule to fit.



An example of the house portraits drawn by Tessa Henderson.



Top, Print Gocco colour printing set, £46.50 from Harrods. Centre, 100 natural beech building bricks by Beaver Toys, £12.98. Left, four of a set of eight "worker" pencilboxes, 5 1/4 in high (guardsman, fireman, chef, city gent, sailor, lawyer, navy, pilot — the hats are the lids), £4.80 the set (70p p & p) from Peter Knight, High Street, Esher, Surrey and London End, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

FOR WOMEN

Flowery tribute

To let your hostess (or underinsured working mum/cook) know that she is appreciated, what nicer present than a box of flowers or basket of fruit and wine delivered to her door on Christmas Eve?

A box of roses to decorate the festive table comes in yellow, red, white, orange, pink or mixed. Boxes of 10 are £7.95, 20 are £13.60, 30 £18. You can telephone a credit card order and it will be sent off the same day. An express service, guaranteeing delivery the next day, costs an extra £1.25. Orders to Chesswood Roses, Thakeham, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 3 EL (West Chillington 2340).

If she prefers carnations, Flying Flowers send all colours of blooms from its nurseries in

Jersey. A box of one dozen costs £4.50 from Flying Flowers, PO Box 373, Jersey, CI, (0534 54657). Last orders for Christmas December 12.

For those in or near London there is a new delivery service called Baskets with Love. They offer a selection of 16 baskets, among them exotic fruits (from £14), champagne with two goblets, nuts, fruit and chocolates (from £30), vintage port with two glasses, small Stilton and box of mint chocolates (from £18). Baskets can be made up to suit any requirements and delivery is within 24 hours to a London address (£2 delivery charge) or with "reasonable distance" of the headquarter, Baskets with Love, 39 Lower Richmond Road, London SW14, (01-878 7201).



For a cook with a light touch choose one of the delightful selection of drawings by Marie-Helene Javes, whose witty ideas on chefs and food are exhibited at The Workshop, 88 Lamb's Conduit Street, WC1N. The alcoholic chef above is £22.00.

Right, waistcoat £42 (£1.50 p & p) and clutch bag £15.50 (75p p & p) made by Robert Cotton from genuine old Oriental carpets. Several handbag styles are available and many colours of Kelmis, Soumac and Shiraz rugs. Brochure and details from Robert Cotton, 19 Lombard Road, NW3, telephone 01-746 4628.

Left, for an unusual and stylish present take a look at the exhibition of handbags next week at 180 Kensington Church Street, W8. John Jesse's collection includes bags from 1900 to the late 60s at prices from £35 to £500 — the one left is probably American, 1950, and has silver foil butterflies, pressed in plastic, £220.



The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole

Old ways worth preserving

It would be a pity if freezers were to kill off too many of the older methods of preserving food. In the case of most vegetables, of course, freezing is better than anything else. And pickles, chutneys, jams and marmalades, all contrived to store summer's bounty against winter privation, are too well established to become the endangered species of this domestic ice age.

Many cooks who grew up with refrigeration have never attempted any of the marvelous old ways of preserving meat or fish. Indeed few people have any need or reason now to prepare their own hams or bacon. But there are other delicacies which are less widely available and well worth the little trouble they take to prepare at home.

Some, like confit d'oie, the succulent chunks of preserved goose which are such a speciality of south-west France, are almost impossible to find here, and costly on either side of the Channel. Fresh geese are not cheap either and usually have to be ordered. But confit works so well with duck and pork too, and the flavour makes such an enjoyable change from the fresh meat, that the recipes have much to recommend them.

Confit, whether of goose, duck or pork, is a key ingredient of cassoulet, the

potest and most delicious of the baked bean dishes. Cassoulet is the ideal vehicle for leftovers of Christmas poultry as well as a splendid method of serving a crowd from one big pot. A jar of confit is also the kind of gift that goes down well.

Confit of goose
Makes 12 or more portions
1 fat goose weighing about 9 kg (20 lbs)
225 g (8 oz) sea salt
1 teaspoon saltpetre (optional)
8 bay leaves, crumbled
2 teaspoons dried thyme
Goose fat and lard (see recipe)

Cut the goose into large serving portions complete with the skin and underlying fat. Save any loose lumps of fat to render down, and cut away the wing tips and carcass for stock.

Combine the sea salt (pounded if it is very coarse), saltpetre and herbs and rub this mixture into the pieces of goose. Pack them closely into a large bowl and sprinkle with the remaining salt mixture. Cover loosely and leave the bowl in a cool place, or the refrigerator, for 24 to 48 hours, turning the pieces of goose once or twice. (If the goose is freshly killed it should be salted for 48 hours longer than a bought bird).

Render down the reserved goose fat by cooking it very slowly until all the fat has melted and only golden crackling remains. Strain the fat and set it aside.

Wipe the excess salt and moisture from the goose pieces with kitchen paper and pack them into a large casserole. Add the reserved goose fat and enough melted lard to cover the goose completely. Cover and cook in a preheated oven (150°C/300°F, gas mark 2) for about 3 1/2 hours or until the goose is very tender. When the meat is ready most of the fat under the skin will have melted and if the meat is pierced with a skewer no juices will run out.

Prepare one or more large preserving jars or crocks by washing them very thoroughly and scalding them. Make sure they are completely dry. Pour a ladle of hot goose fat into each jar and pack them with pieces of goose to within 5 cm (2 inches) of the top. Pour in hot goose fat to cover them completely. Tap the jars firmly on a solid surface to release any air bubbles trapped with the meat, and leave them in a cool place until quite cold. Top up the jars with a good layer of hot fat or melted lard. Seal with lids if using preserving jars, or with foil pressed down on top of the fat and store in a cool dark and dry place for at least a

week to mellow the flavours. Provided it is stored in cool, dry conditions, confit will keep well for six months or more.

When you want to retrieve one or more pieces of the confit, heat the jar gently in a pan of water and fish out the quantity you need, making sure that the remaining pieces stay covered with fat. (Cool and reheat the remainder for later use). Regardless of how you serve the confit, on its own, in cassoulet or on another recipe, it must be heated to at least 70°C (160°F) for at least 5 minutes to disarm any bacteria which may be present.

Confit of duck is made in exactly the same way as confit of goose except, of course, that the bird is smaller and the quantities are reduced accordingly. Confit of pork may also be made with the same recipe, but it is even more delicious if the pieces of pork are spiked with slivers of garlic before it is cooked. Shoulder of pork is the ideal cut for the purpose. It should be boned, then cut into large chunks, skin and all. A 3 kg (7 lb) shoulder takes about 1 1/2 hours to cook. Use 1/2 teaspoon saltpetre (optional), 4 bay leaves, 1 teaspoon of dried thyme and 3 peeled cloves of garlic. It is then cooked for about 3 1/2 hours in pure lard or pork fat.

Gardening/Roy Hay

First class travellers from South Africa

Last week a friend sent us from South Africa a small box packed with two dozen blooms of chinchinches, the delightful white *Ornithoglossum chrysoides*. They are flowers here in bud and the flowers open gradually over two to four weeks and will then last for several weeks if kept in a cool, but not freezing temperature.

They are not hardy in Britain and must be kept in a greenhouse or frame during the winter. Air transport, modern production techniques and new varieties have over the past decade brought about enormous changes in the cut flowers we may now find in florists' shops.

Plant breeders in many countries are constantly striving to produce new varieties of cut flowers to meet changing fashions, or changed economic conditions and, although it is a slow business they have achieved considerable successes. Different growing techniques enable some plants to be grown all through the year — and cut flowers are now flown here from all over the world.

Gerberas for example have been improved out of all knowledge since the French Channel Island growers began to grow them under glass as cut flowers in the 1920s. Now we have very large flowered single, double,

and anemone centred flowers in many shades of colour.

Perhaps the greatest achievement of breeders of gerberas has been to improve greatly the strength of the stems. Years ago if they were used in an arrangement they would flop after a few hours. Modern varieties are very long lasting in water.

Alstromerias, with large, long-lasting flowers now available in many lovely shades of pink and salmon besides the old familiar orange, are in great demand. So too are the new large flowered single and double freesias, including the exciting single scarlet varieties now arriving in the shops.

Economic factors have played an important role in the search for new varieties of cut flowers. The new spray carnations come in many shades of colour, yellow, pink, red, salmon, mauve, also in "picotee" or striped forms that are not available in the large flowered range of carnations.

Much of the breeding of these carnations has been done in the United States, Israel and Holland.

It took many years to persuade florists and the public to accept daffodils in tight bud, which last much longer than fully open flowers. But now they are the norm and everybody is happy. Incidentally it is not

generally appreciated that our growers export daffodil flowers to the United States and other countries to a value of £1.5m a year.

Over the years too there have been many additions to the range of pot plants. At the moment of course there is an all out war between British growers and the Dutch whose government subsidizes their production costs by supplying cheap gas for greenhouses. British growers are understandably urging us to buy British.

The House of Richmond at Broxbourne in Hertfordshire is fighting back vigorously and has just opened what is probably the finest show greenhouse in Europe with a large complex of show greenhouses full of exotic plants grown to perfection.

When buying plants for the home or as gifts for friends one should be guided by the information on the label which indicates ease or difficulty of nurturing the plant, and consider whether the conditions it will be asked to survive are reasonable.

Most pot plants flourish in great fluctuations of temperature — up to 70°F or more by day and down almost to freezing on a cold night.

Provided the recipient is not known to be completely inept at growing plants

indoors — and I know several people who cheerfully admit it — pot plants are good gifts. Indeed we have now taken to sending pot plants to friends in hospital rather than cut flowers, as they can take them home with them when they leave.

If you have in mind to propagate some of the house plants you buy I would suggest the easiest of all is the chlorophytum which produces ready made plantlets on long stems and the various species of *Ficus* including the small leaved *Ficus elastica* 'Decora' or *F. radicans*. All these can be easily increased by cuttings. So too can the rubber plant *Ficus elastica* 'Decora' with its large green leaves and the varieties such as 'Tricolor' with variegated leaves, but this needs rather more heat — 70-75°F — and is best rooted in a propagating case.

I remember some years ago a houseplant sent a figus to the BBC because it had grown too tall for its house. It was only in an eight inch pot but it was eight feet high. Of course one can take out the top six or eight inches of a rubber plant cutting if just below a node, remove the two lower leaves and use it as a cutting. The parent plant will then produce two side shoots and if these grow too large they may be treated in the same way.

Insurers warned off friendly societies

By Lorna Burke
Mr Keith Brading, chief register of friendly societies, has sounded a warning to building societies and insurers who have been looking at the potentially rich pickings to be had from managing tax-free friendly societies.

Friendly societies must be run for the benefit of the members and the register is keen to deter those who might seek to profit from managing such societies. "It is important to ensure that the society is a self-contained entity, capable of achieving full independence of control and management of its affairs", Mr Brading said in his report for 1980.

"If in the early stages, management services are provided by an outside organization, the terms on which those services are provided should be negotiated at arms-length and be seen to pay due and fair regard to the interest of members."

This warning follows problems which developed when Family Assurance friendly society's management contract was sold to Dundonian in a £1m deal.

The registrar also said that time was short if small building societies were to survive. Tougher competition from other societies and financial institutions would place increasing strains on small societies.

Some analysts have advocated that where there may be two or more small societies in one local area, or within reasonable distance, they should consider merging if by doing so they may form a more "viable society", he said.

Societies have been heading the registrar's advice and merging relatively rapidly. During 1980 the total number of building societies fell from 287 to 273, and by September of this year the total had dropped to 257.

KLEBER CUTBACKS WARNING
From Our Correspondent, Paris, Nov 27

M Lucien Male, managing director of Kleber-Colombes, the tyre manufacturer, has said that if he is not allowed to push through his proposed rationalization measures, any ensuing bankruptcies will be the fault of the French Government.

Also, if he did not get a reply from the Government by the beginning of December, he would have to assume his responsibilities as provided for by the law in the case of a hopeless situation.

Under French law, a management can be prosecuted if it can be shown that it was responsible for a bankruptcy. By his declaration M Male is protesting himself against such an eventuality. M Male said the Government had agreed to cutbacks earlier this year, but now Paris was blocking them.

The rationalization provides for the closure of the Paris factory of Colombes and a concentration of production in eastern France with a cutback in the workforce to 10,500 from 12,000.

Sterling soars on high UK interest rates

By Frances Williams and John Whitmore
The pound sprang ahead on the world's financial markets yesterday as investors moved their money into sterling to benefit from Britain's high interest rates. On the London money markets, conditions remained tight, amid confusion over the authorities' intentions for the future course of interest rates.

The pound ended trading in London only just below its best levels of the day, jumping 1.70 cents to close at a 5-month high of \$1.9565 against a weaker dollar.

Dealers thought they detected some selling of pounds by the Bank of England at around \$1.95, where the rate stuck for much of the day. This was more than counteracted, however, by strong buying interest from the United States and, according to some reports, from Saudi Arabia involving sales of some 1,500m Deutsch marks.

The pound made substantial gains on the German and other leading currencies. The index measuring its wider international value rose 0.6 to 91.9 per cent of its 1975 level, the highest since the end of August.

Sterling continues to benefit from the big gap between interest rates in the United Kingdom and elsewhere, a gap which shows little sign of disappearing in the near future. At yesterday's weekly Treasury bill tender the average rate discount at which bills were sold was only marginally lower at 13.76 per cent.

Some analysts are talking of a £2 pound by spring 1982, but weakened confidence in the Government's handling of the economy and a dwindling balance of payments surplus on current account may make investment wary.

As the week has progressed, City opinions on the likelihood of an early cut in the banks' base lending rates have remained divided.

The decline in overseas interest rates, notably United States rates, and the consequent strength of sterling have encouraged the view that the Government should no longer be fettered by external constraints.

Some banks, however, are taking the view that a small cut in interest rates at this stage could come badly un-expected, given the prospect of tightness in money markets in the weeks ahead.

This week, conditions have been slightly easier than last, but large payments of deferred tax to the Inland Revenue could push the overall shortage next week up towards £1,500m on some money market estimates.

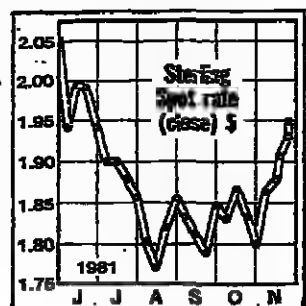
That does not necessarily mean that a cut in base rates is ruled out, at least as long as the authorities are prepared and able to provide the liquidity to keep very short-term interest rates at a level that would remove the risk of "round-tripping".

In this respect, however, the markets have found the authorities' actions in the market over the past fortnight as offering less than clear-cut signals.

There may well be some concern too as to whether the domestic background fully justifies further interest rate cuts at this stage.

Markets should be able to form a better idea of the basis of the Chancellor's observations when they see the Treasury's latest economic forecasts next week. November money supply figures are due to be published the following week.

Last night, the Treasury announced a further reduction in the rate of interest on certificates of deposit, down from 14 to 14 per cent, but the interest rate supplement on certificates held for more than three months rises from one half to a full one per cent.



City report on Halliday unlikely this year

By Our Financial Staff
The Stock Exchange report into the business affairs of Halliday, Simpson, the suspended Manchester stockbroker, is unlikely to be made public before Christmas.

It was originally hoped by Mr Nicholas Goodison, the chairman of the exchange, that some form of interim report could be published before the end of the year.

It has now emerged, however, that the disciplinary proceedings virtually certain to result from the findings of the special investigating committee will mean that its information will have to stay secret until they are over.

The exchange now believes they may be able to issue only a short statement until proceedings are complete.

In July, the exchange took the unprecedented step of suspending the six-partner firm from trading pending an investigation into their business practices. At the same time, Mr Goodison asked Arthur Knight, Latham, the merchant bankers, (now part of Dow Scamania) to conduct an internal investigation.

A week later Sir Trevor Dawson and Mr Michael Barrett, who together run the bank's £51m unit trusts interests, were suspended in connection with the Halliday inquiry. The two subsequently resigned.

As a consequence of the pattern of dealings which were discovered during the early part of the investigation and the collapse of two other stockbroking firms, the exchange announced last month the appointment of Mr Robert Wilkinson as a new supervisor.



Decision day nears for Professor Roland Smith (left) and Mr Roland Rowland.

£2.75m Fraser expansion

By Philip Robinson
House of Fraser, at present awaiting a government decision on whether 'Lorbro' will be allowed to make a full takeover bid, yesterday announced a further £2.75m of store expansion.

It brings the total spent so far on new and existing stores to £27m since January when Mr Roland 'Tiny' Rowland, Mr Rowland's chief executive, announced a 150p a share bid for the stores group.

It has also spent £10m on computers for its accounts system and has now allocated more than half the £56m earmarked to improve assets.

It is all part of Fraser's defence strategy to avoid being swallowed by Lorbro which has vowed if the bid goes through to oust £50,000 a year.

Professor Roland Smith as the store group's part-time chairman and replace him with Sir Hugh Fraser whose father built the business.

Prof Smith and the board, which includes property specialists, Mr Ernest Sharp, has stepped up defensive moves in recent weeks ahead of a decision by Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, on whether Lorbro can bid. This is expected in about two weeks.

Prof Smith said last night: "We are preparing to defend ourselves. If Lorbro is allowed to bid, our institutional shareholders have been behind us in all that we have done so far."

The price of our assets per share next January will be much higher than the 305p we reported last January. The actual figure will emerge if we have to defend ourselves."

But yesterday the stock market had convinced itself that Mr Biffen had already made up his mind about the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report.

The Fraser shares jumped 7p to 181p, within a whisker of their peak for the year as small speculators gambled that Lorbro would be allowed to go ahead and even if it is thwarted its 29.9 per cent stake would be sold on to someone who would make a bid instead.

Lorbro's price was unchanged at 81p. It has been as high as 110p this year.

Lorbro has already made it clear that its original 150p bid, worth £158m, was not necessary, its final offer.

Minister reaffirms backing for BL chief

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Government support was reaffirmed yesterday for Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of BL, as the company was plunged into a deepening crisis as a result of the Longbridge "rebreak" strike over hours and work breaks.

Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, described Sir Michael as "one of the most outstanding chairmen of major British companies". He had given BL what it had lacked for a long time—hope and emerging confidence for the future.

Mr Lamont's remarks, made at the annual lunch of the Motor Industry Research Association, came amid growing fears for the future of the BL plant at Longbridge in Birmingham, where the stoppage has cost the company £70m.

Mr Lamont said that the substantial progress made by BL over the past year was due to the credit of Sir Michael, and the company board. He also paid tribute to the contribution made by BL employees, who had shown a realisation about the company's position, and to national trade union leaders.

In particular, Mr Lamont referred to Mr Terence Duffy and Sir John Boyd, president and general secretary respectively of the Association of Engineering Workers, whom he said clearly appreciated the importance of BL to the whole economy and had been prepared to say so.

The Government's decision to continue £300m of funds to BL this year, and next year was not on the supposition that the state was locked in to a permanent subsidy of a loss-making company. That was not the new and I do not think it is going to be the reality," he said.

Since the beginning of the year, real progress had been made at BL. The Acclaim had joined the Metro and T45 truck and a great deal more was on the way. "Many of our productivity has improved dramatically thanks to vigorous management and the cooperation of the workforce," he said.

Restoring and maintaining the vitality of Britain's basic industries was a task of the highest importance as fostering the so-called "sunrise" industries such as micro-electronics and few were as central or as important as the motor industry.

The Government was criticised for not injecting enough money into motor industry research and development he said, but in fact the Department's financial support had risen from £1.84m in 1977-78 to an expected £5m this year including Research Board spending on vehicles.

A higher proportion of state aid was now going into shorter and medium term support for product development. "We are not in the business of advancing human knowledge for its own sake, but in the business of helping our own companies to survive and prosper," he said.

ICL loans guarantee extended

By Peter Wilson-Smith
The Government has agreed to guarantee ICL's bank borrowings past the March 1983, deadline imposed when it rescued the computer company earlier this year. The move will be seen as a vote of confidence from the Government in ICL's new management team and the sweeping changes they have implemented.

The £270m rescue package for ICL announced last March included £200m of bank facilities guaranteed for two years by the Government. This guarantee will be extended on a reducing basis, falling by £50m annually from March 1983, until it expires in 1986.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, who announced the extension in Parliament yesterday said that ICL had made considerable progress since last March.

After representations from ICL about the need to ensure a smooth transition to normal financial arrangements, the Government agreed to extend the guarantee, but Mr Jenkin said he had made clear to the company there would be no more financial support of this kind.

ICL's four main bankers—Midland Bank, West and Citibank—have also agreed to extend the £70m facility promised to the company last March until March 1984.

Apart from the sweeping reorganisations ICL has made or announced in the past six months to help restore the group to profits, it has also agreed to collaborate with the Japanese computer company Fujitsu and with ICL Canada Corporation of America and Mitel of Canada.

The extension of the Government guarantee will provide the assurances on its long-term future they would doubtless be looking for.

Next month ICL reports annual results to September 30 which may show a first time profit. The £500m at the half-way stage. In August ICL announced the conversion of £50m of bank loans into preference shares as a first step in restoring its finances.

CGE buys German cable maker

From Michael Parnett, Paris, Nov 27
Les Cables de Lyon, France's leading cable manufacturer, and a wholly owned subsidiary of the Compagnie Générale d'Electricité (CGE), is to acquire control of Kabel und Metallwerke, West Germany's fourth largest cable maker, making it Europe's second biggest cable group, equal to Philips of Holland and behind Pirelli of Italy.

Under an agreement in principle reached between CGE and the shareholders of the German group, CGE will acquire all the shares of Kabel und Metallwerke in return for between 25 and 30 per cent of its own capital and an unspecified amount of cash. Les Cables de Lyon has annual sales of about 3,000m francs (£277m) and Kabel und Metallwerke about 2,000m francs.

Meanwhile the French group Société Anonyme de Télécommunication, with annual sales of 2,000m francs, has acquired a 19.7 per cent stake in the French company SNEC, which has an annual turnover of 930m francs.

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Ezra plea for investment

By Our Industrial Staff
Increased industrial investment was vital to help Britain emerge from recession, Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board, said yesterday.

Foreign competitors had sustained a high level of investment over the past two years, putting Britain at a competitive disadvantage.

"Investment in railways, ports, roads, telecommunications and housing would provide a stimulus throughout British industry and would put the economy on a stronger basis to meet the upturn in the world economy, when it comes," he said.

The coal industry was maintaining its investment programme, providing a £700m stimulus to United Kingdom contractors and engineering companies. At the same time productivity was increasing at a rate of 4 per cent, and sales were up.

Board angered by training cuts

By Rupert Morris
Kemp, its chairman, showed more anger than gratitude in his first public speech since the Government's action.

He said the decision to withdraw operating grants from the Construction Industry Training Board could leave the building industry unable to recover from the effects of recession.

Although the board was one of only eight industrial training boards to survive cuts announced last week by Norman Tebbit, the Employment Secretary, Mr Leslie

London rubbish will earn £3m

The Greater London Council expects to sell more than £3m worth of electricity in this financial year from its plant refuse incinerator at Edmonton.

Last year the GLC sold electricity worth £2.6m to the Thames Water Authority and the Eastern Electricity Board. That recouped nearly three-quarters of the operating costs of the incinerator, which burns 400,000 tons of rubbish a year.

US Steel said all the conditions and contingencies in Mobil's revised offer for Marathon Oil "place a substantial cloud over" the offer.

It said the revised Mobil offer of \$126 a share for 51 per cent of Marathon's common stock was apparently designed to appear more attractive than United States steel's offer of \$125 a share. However, the conditions attached rendered the new Mobil offer unattractive.

Brazil contract
Petrobras, the Brazilian national oil company, has awarded a \$290m (£150m) contract for offshore oil and gas field development to a consortium which includes Worley Engineering, part of the William Press group.

Airline cuts pay
Republic Airlines said in Minneapolis that most of its union employees would take a 10 per cent pay cut for six months as part of the airline's cost-cutting programme.

The Suez Canal Authority is raising transit tolls by an average 5 per cent from January 1.

Stock Markets	
FT Index 533.4 up 7.3	
FT 100 64.40 up 0.04	
FT All Share 313.15	
up 2.35	
Bargains 18,340	
Sterling	
\$ 1.9565 up 170 pts	
Index 91.9 up 0.6	
New York: \$1.9542	
Dollar	
Index 105.3 down 0.3	
DM 2.2155 down 87 pts	
Gold	
\$412.50 up \$3	
New York: \$414	
Money	
3 mth sterling 1441-1448	
3 mth Euro \$ 111-121	
6 mth Euro \$ 121-124	

PRICE CHANGES

Rises	
Barclays Bank	12p to 465p
Battersea-Harvey	3p to 27p
Carlisle Capital	11p to 150p
Cowie T.	3p to 31p
Gas & Oil Acre	10p to 45p
ICL	4p to 51p
Lloyds Bank	15p to 445p
Midland	12p to 335p
Nat West	12p to 418p
Philips Lamp	17p to 430p
Richardson	23p to 213p
Rio Tinto Zinc	18p to 475p
Shell Tires	10p to 405p
Sketchley	10p to 285p
Trafford Park	12p to 146p

Falls	
Dalgety	5p to 281p
Delta Inv	10p to 200p
Eagle Star	5p to 365p
Eng Assoc Grp	5p to 150p
Excel Group	5p to 240p
Fogarty E.	5p to 89p
Grindlays Hldgs	5p to 235p
Knox Int	15p to 167p
Rediffusion	5p to 165p
Royal Woot	5p to 85p
St George's Crp	5p to 79p
Standard Tel	7p to 323p
Trust Secs	5p to 510p
Tunnel Hldgs	5p to 210p
Unittech	5p to 210p

Lasmo looks to America

Lasmo, the British independent oil exploration group, is close to a further acquisition in the United States. It is looking to expand in North America, not least because of falling profitability and high taxation in the United Kingdom. At present the United States provides only about 5 per cent of Lasmo's sales. The company operates there largely through its Bates Oil subsidiary.

Meanwhile in Britain Lasmo is heading a consortium to bid for the British Gas Corporation's half-share in the highly-profitable Wytch Farm oil field in Dorset.

Stockbrokers' commissions

The Stock Exchange Council will give a second reading to its committee's review of what stockbrokers can charge their clients next Tuesday. If initial comments are satisfactory, it will issue the proposals for public debate in about two weeks.

It is understood one of the more controversial proposals is to double to £15 the minimum commission charged to small private clients.

RTZ terms

Rio Tinto-Zinc has sent its offer document to shareholders of Thomas W. Ward in support of its £191m takeover bid for the Sheffield cement group. RTZ says that it wants to receive acceptances by December 18. It is offering 190p in cash or 190p nominal RTZ convertible stock for each Ward share.

Dealings in the shares of Duntell Steels are to start again on Monday. They were suspended after the directors were advised that an offer for the company was "imminent".

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Dalgety expands in Canada

Mr David Donne, left, chairman of Dalgety, the international food and agricultural merchandising group, announced yesterday that the company is expanding its Canadian operations by the purchase of Peace Wood Products from Canadian Gypsum for £12m. Its acquisition will add 30 per cent to the annual capacity of Dalgety's existing Canadian sawmills.

The purchase, conditional on the approval of the Canadian authorities, is being financed by a new share issue.

\$1,000m DRUG TAKEOVER

SmithKline, the Philadelphia drug company, and Beckman Instruments have reached a preliminary merger agreement valued at about \$1,000m. The purchase of Beckman and SmithKline's search for a health-care concern. The California-based company will provide SmithKline with a stake in medical diagnostics, biotechnology and molecular biology.

Airborne order

Racal-Decca has won a £500,000 order from the Ministry of Defence for airborne navigation systems. Most of the equipment will be installed in Andover aircraft based at RAF Brize Norton, Oxfordshire.

Bernard Darty, president of the Dart appliance chain stores in France, was charged yesterday with illegally transferring money to Switzerland. He is the tenth client of Paribas bank to be charged with breaching currency regulations.

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New Mobil bid 'under a cloud'

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Annual Report 1981

BRITISH ASSETS TRUST

A GROWTH OF INCOME INVESTMENT TRUST WITH 67% OF ASSETS OVERSEAS

Dividend Growth since 1974

+216%	+134%	+150%
BAT Dividend	UK Company Dividends	UK Investment Trust Dividends

To: D.T.M. Ross, The Secretarial Department, Ivory & Sime Limited, Freeport, Edinburgh EH2 0BY.

Please send me a copy of the 1981 Annual Report for British Assets Trust.

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Insurance

Is your broker on the register?

A thin seal of respectability will be drawn round the business of insurance selling next week.

From December 1 anyone who sells any form of insurance and wants to call themselves an "insurance broker" will have to be registered. This will bind the broker to a code of conduct, ensure certain basic financial controls on the way he does business and give dissatisfied customers a come-back if they feel they have had a raw deal.

This is the day when the statutory Insurance Brokers' Registration Council swings into action. The council is one of the products of the 1977 Insurance Brokers' (Registration) Act, passed after pressure from the then Labour government for the insurance industry to put its house in order.

This followed a string of insurance company failures in the 1970s - the most infamous of which was the collapse of V & G - when many customers complained that they had not got independent advice from their brokers.

The new rules do not mean that you cannot buy insurance from any Tom, Dick or Harry - only that these people will have to call themselves an insurance adviser, consultant or indeed anything but a broker. The main shortcoming of the new legislation, readily admitted by the British Insurance Brokers Association, is the difficulty persuading the

British public that there is a distinction between insurance brokers and the rest. To help educate you and me BIBA is starting a £500,000 advertising campaign next January, and to be fair to the broking industry, it would have liked even more stringent rules governing just who can sell insurance policies.

● The essence of the new legislation is that a broker must put the interests of his client above those of the insurance company with whom he is dealing. To ensure impartiality, the council will want to know if a broker put more than 15 per cent of his business with any one company. Brokers registered with the council will also have to abide by the following rules.

● He must have professional indemnity insurance of a minimum £250,000.

● Separation of clients' money from the working capital of the broker.

● He must be prepared to contribute, if necessary, to a compensation fund in case a broker cannot meet his obligations.

Anyone who has a complaint against a registered broker should take it to the Insurance Brokers' Registration Council, or BIBA if he is a member of that organization. If proved, the council has the power to take disciplinary action and ultimately expel him from membership. But a dissatisfied client will still have to

go through the rigmarole of a court case to get compensation.

The standards of registration have been set deliberately low - too low in the eyes of some. But it is still open to question how many insurance men will register, particularly in view of the cost of the indemnity insurance.

No one seems to know just how many insurance selling organizations there are, although some estimates put the figure as high as 12,000. BIBA reckons that many of these will be excluded because they are sole traders who cannot satisfy the financial requirements, but upwards of 2,000 have already registered.

Some of the life offices which sell heavily through brokers seem to be doubtful whether all the perfectly respectable agents they presently use will opt for registration.

In future, consumers will have only themselves to blame if they find themselves without any safeguards, doing business with a non-registered broker.

But although registration is a small step in the right direction, there is still plenty of scope to raise standards. Until there are the same controls on insurance selling as there are on other professionals, difficulties are likely to continue.

Ronald Pullen



The Henderson management line-up: (left to right) Tim Walker, Hamilton Verschoyle, Peter Lund, and Jeremy Edwards.

Property bonds

Henderson as landlords

For anyone with a minimum of £500 and a fancy to become a rentier, Henderson Administration has come up with just the thing. It is, as they proudly announced at last week's launch, Britain's first residential property bond.

Investing in residential property on anything other than an owner-occupier basis is a tricky business in Britain, largely because of the morass of legislation into which the landlord is liable to flounder, which restricts his ability to charge adequate rents and may make it extremely difficult to get an unsatisfactory tenant out.

In consequence the only fund to attempt investment in residential property recently is an unauthorised unit trust which specialises in buying

up elderly mansion blocks and refurbishing the flats for resale as the tenants move out. This is a business of high risk and high reward, and hardly in the Henderson style.

Henderson plans to be a landlord proper, taking a regular income from its properties - though it has to be said that the prospect of capital gain is held out as one of the principal attractions of the fund.

Henderson believes it can avoid the hazards which beset the common or garden landlord by confining its less to the top end of the market. They plan to buy houses and flats in the £100,000 to £250,000 range, in the "most exclusive" parts of London - Belgrave, Knightsbridge, Mayfair, parts of Kensington

— where people from foreign companies and embassies often live.

Henderson believes there is scope, with such properties, not merely for an immediate return of 6-7 per cent (after all costs), but also for a higher yield thereafter (the properties are to be let on yearly tenancies, which means there is scope for an annual rent review).

Against the returns available on funds invested in commercial property this is quite attractive, even before you contemplate the index which the fund's property manager, Hampton, has produced for the occasion.

This shows an increase of 247 per cent in the price of the prime property since January 1974, which is comfortably ahead of everything else including the retail price index and the "average dwelling" as defined by the Nationwide Building Society.

But there are one or two considerations before you allow yourself to be carried away by the sky-high prospects attached to owning your own slice of prime London property. First, if the market for prime commercial property is dull it is so because the economy is flat; and if the economy is flat you can bet your bottom dollar it will show up, sooner or later, in the supply of high-spending company tenants, or in the amount they are prepared to spend.

Secondly, while the properties which Henderson plans to buy may fall outside the scope of the rent laws at the moment, there is no saying that any future government will do to extend them.

Henderson's new bond represents an interesting experiment, and a useful addition to the range of investments available to the private individual, but don't gamble your patrimony on it.

Adrienne Gleeson

Abbey's home income scheme

Many elderly people sit on an asset of considerable value - their home - but lack sufficient income to lead even a comfortable existence. The answer for those over 70 can be a "home annuity" scheme, and Abbey National Building Society is launching a plan which will offer big improvements on existing schemes.

You must be more than 70 and own your own home outright to benefit from a home annuity. The scheme is a combination of a loan raised against the security of the property, the proceeds of which are used to buy an annuity - an insurance contract which provides a regular income for the rest of the policyholder's life.

The income from the annuity is used to pay the interest on the loan (which is eligible for tax relief) and the balance provides extra income for the homeowner.

Abbey National's scheme will be on offer some time in the new year and, at recent interest rates, Abbey calculates a 70-year-old man raising a £25,000 loan on his home would receive £1,600 a year net of basic rate tax as extra spendable income, which, Abbey claims, is £400 a year better than returns offered elsewhere.

Non-taxpayers can benefit from home annuity plans too, and in fact do better than the taxpayer. A 70-year-old man raising a £25,000 loan through an option mortgage (he is charged a lower rate of interest but does not receive tax relief) would have an extra £2,300 a year to spend.

Others running these schemes are Hambro Frères, Save and Prosper and Home Reversions in Cardiff. Anyone contemplating such a scheme might do better to wait and see what Abbey National has to offer.

LB

Irish trust

A unit trust with the investment team based in Dublin sounds a bit like an Irish joke but the Investment Bank of Ireland believes it will appeal.

This is the first United Kingdom authorised unit trust with overseas management, and IBI, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank of Ireland, will be looking for growth situations in a world-wide basis. IBI believes the restricted size of the Irish equity market has encouraged a wide ranging international investment outlook which will be put to good use on behalf of United Kingdom investors.

Unit trusts

Unit trusts beat competition

The boom in unit trust investment continues with another 12 trusts launched last month giving savers a choice of more than 500 trusts.

Latest statistics present a convincing argument for unit trust investment showing that over the past five years, even a dull, middle-of-the-road performer managed to beat an investment in a building society, National Savings, or a bank deposit account.

However, much depends on timing and at the moment the five-year performance figures present a particularly favourable picture to unit trusts. Share prices hit their low in January 1975 when the Financial Times index bottomed out at 146. Share prices have since risen steadily and it would be a poor management which had not shown substantial growth.

The tables show performance over varying periods for the median fund in several sectors - the fund that comes half way between the best performer and the worst. This can be a little misleading since it is possible for the majority of trusts to

come below or above the median performance level. But it gives some idea what should be expected. With more than 500 to choose from anyone wanting to buy unit trusts is presented with a bewildering array of alternatives. There is no shortage of people willing to give advice to the uninitiated, the problem is to decide whether the advice is good.

Most stockbrokers or insurance brokers will be prepared to make recommendations and there is no harm in consulting several and comparing advice.

Much will depend on whether you need capital appreciation or income and the degree of risk you are able to contemplate. The specialist funds which have performed well in recent years are much more volatile than the big general funds and the extent to which you are likely to double your

money is equalised by the possibility of halving it. It is not a bad idea to take a look at funds which have recently been launched. The managers will be trying their hardest to turn in a good performance and new funds have the advantage of being easier to manage than large mature funds.

New trusts launched last month were "Rockmaster" (smaller companies), "Chieftain" (Australian, Japanese, Schroder, Singapore and Malaysian funds), "Target US" (Special Bond Fund), "TSB Pacific Unit Trust" and five new trusts from Equity and Law covering Gilt, North America, UK Growth Shares, Higher Income shares and the Far East.

With the exception of the Equity and Law growth and income trusts, these are all specialist trusts and can prove volatile.

Although new trusts tend to perform well, this is not an absolute rule, and unless you regard investing in a unit trust in the same light as picking a horse in the 3.30 at Sandown, you will do better to seek professional advice.

National Savings



National Savings:

Avoiding the tax trap

Tax on investment income and the investment income itself are virtually things of the past thanks to the government's voracious appetite for cash.

National Savings was instructed by the Chancellor to raise £3,000m from personal investors and is well on the way to achieving this target. The method of meeting this demand has been to extend eligibility for various National Savings securities and increase maximum holdings.

Anyone living off income on investments who has taken full advantage of the tax-free returns on National Savings securities, can have substantial sums invested and draw a handsome income totally free of all tax.

A married couple could within the last seven months have saved away £40,000 among four issues of tax-free National Savings certificates, and another £20,000 in Premium Bonds. Nor is this all.

Everyone over 16 can put up to £50 a month into the government's inflation-proof Save-As-You-Earn scheme, and another £20 a month into a building society SAYE plan on which the benefits are also tax exempt.

The advantage of all these forms of investment is that the returns are free of all rates of United Kingdom income tax (including the investment income surcharge) and of capital gains tax. Moreover, there is no need to declare them on the annual tax return.

This makes them especially attractive for higher-rate taxpayers, and for wives who want to save without having to declare anything to their husbands or to the Inland Revenue; they are not imputed for those looking for a quick return. But for investors prepared to stay the course, the benefits can be considerable.

The figure of £40,000 mentioned above is made up of £5,000 a person in each of the second, nineteenth, twenty-first and twenty-third

index-linked issues of National Savings certificates. If inflation were to remain at its recent level of around 11.5 per cent, the average rate of compound interest over the next five years would be 10.34 per cent.

This would be equivalent to 14.77 per cent for a basic rate taxpayer, 20.68 per cent at 50 per cent tax, and 25.85 per cent at 60 per cent. The total gain on the £40,000 investment would be £25,810, or 64.5 per cent, if all the certificates were to be held to the fifth anniversary of purchase.

Depending on your rate of income tax, it could pay to leave your money invested in earlier issues of National Savings certificates. Anyone who invested the maximum amount of £3,000 in 14th issue is receiving a net return of around 5 per cent and subsequent issues - the sixteenth and eighteenth - are showing higher returns (depending on when you bought them).

An individual could have invested a total of £5,000 in these three issues plus a further £3,000 in the first index-linked issue. For a married couple this would bring the total holding in savings certificates, including the £40,000 invested in the recent second, nineteenth, twenty-first and twenty-third

index-linked issues, to £58,000. The returns on these investments are all totally tax free.

For the really dedicated tax avoider the opportunities offered by the government are unlimited. Gifted bonds would work out at only 1 per cent on the total fund, but even this return can be attractive to those in the higher tax bands. The grossed-up yield for a 60 per cent taxpayer, assuming he gets an average return of 7 per cent on his own investment, would be 17.5 per cent. And there is always the chance, however slim, of winning a jackpot.

Low yielding gilt maturing within five years at present show a tax-free capital gain of around 10 per cent a year, and there is no limit on the amount you can invest.

For large amounts it is probably easier to invest through a stockbroker but for small bargains of up to £3,000 the commission rate at the Post Office is lower.

Among those on the National Savings Stock Register (NSSR) is the 3 per cent Treasury Stock 1985, which matures in about 3½ years. At the recent price of around £73 for £100 nominal stock, the buyer is assured of a useful tax-free capital gain.

An investment of £5,000 - the normal maximum for a single NSSR transaction - would grow to about £6,850 on maturity - an increase of 37 per cent. The NSSR commission on purchase would be a relatively modest £20.

The stock would also give a running yield of just over 4 per cent, which would be taxable, though interest on NSSR stocks is paid without deduction of tax at source.

SAYE is five-year contractual savings plan and there are penalties for early withdrawal. But the index-linked variety, operated by the Department for National Savings, has already established a good track record, with an effective annual yield of about 13 to 14 per cent on contracts that have run the five-year term. The building society SAYE pays a modest 8.3 per cent a year over the five-year span, but even this can be tempting for those in the higher tax brackets. The grossed-up yield for a 60 per cent taxpayer is 20.75 per cent, and this rises to 21.55 per cent if the money is left invested until the end of the seventh year.

Free money on Premium Bonds works out at only 1 per cent on the total fund, but even this return can be attractive to those in the higher tax bands. The grossed-up yield for a 60 per cent taxpayer, assuming he gets an average return of 7 per cent on his own investment, would be 17.5 per cent. And there is always the chance, however slim, of winning a jackpot.

With the exception of the Equity and Law growth and income trusts, these are all specialist trusts and can prove volatile. Although new trusts tend to perform well, this is not an absolute rule, and unless you regard investing in a unit trust in the same light as picking a horse in the 3.30 at Sandown, you will do better to seek professional advice.

Five-year bond with guarantee



Five-year income or growth bonds offering a guaranteed return of 12.25 per cent net of basic rate tax are available from Royal Insurance. Each £5,000 invested in the growth bond is guaranteed to produce a return of £1,782 after five years.

Minimum investment in the growth bond is £2,500, and thereafter in multiples of £500 up to a maximum of £10,000. The offer is limited and will be withdrawn by December 11 at the latest.

Fixed deposits

Monday is the last opportunity to invest in Chartered Trust's 12-month fixed interest deposits which offer 15.25 per cent. Interest is paid at the end of the 12-month period, without deduction of tax which is useful for non-taxpayers. Minimum deposit is £200. The offer closes on November 30 and the rate of 15.25 per cent looks relatively generous compared with the alternatives.

House let scheme

Building societies will generally allow anyone going abroad to work to let their house. Bristol and West has formalised this concession and is launching a scheme aimed specifically at those intending to work overseas.

The drawback is that you must buy the house and live in it for some time to qualify, and since most people go abroad to work with the specific aim of saving money to buy a house before leaving for another overseas tour, the scheme will have limited appeal.

Borrowers most likely to benefit are those abroad who intend coming back to the United Kingdom briefly to buy a house before leaving for another overseas tour. Applicants have to save with Bristol and West for at least 12 months and can borrow up to four times the amount invested.

Insurance guide

Home owners need to insure their property for the market value or thereabouts, but this can be hopelessly inaccurate. Rebuilding costs will vary according to the type of construction and other factors.

The British Insurance Association has updated its leaflet which sets out a simple formula for deciding how much to insure a home for. It is available free from the BIA, Leamington (31), Aldermley House, Queen Street, London EC4N 3TU.

Mortgage burden

Latest figures from Bristol and West Building Society reveal that at this time last year there were 52,000 unemployed recipients of supplementary benefit who were receiving help with mortgage interest payments. This would indicate, says Bristol and West, a cost to the Exchequer of some £80m a year and the figure is likely to be some 30 per cent higher than the 1980 total.

Managers' choice

Australia is the country investment managers appear to favour at present and Fidelity is launching a fund specialising in this area. The initial portfolio composition will be 45 per cent industrial companies, oil and gas shares 25 per cent, 10 per cent in metals and minerals with 20 per cent in bank shares. Subscriptions close on December 8.

Base Lending Rates

ARN Bank	15%
Barclays	15%
BCCI	15%
Consolidated Crd	15%
C. Hoare & Co	15%
Lloyds Bank	15%
Midland Bank	15%
Nat Westminster	15%
TSB	15%
Williams & Glyn's	15%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £1,000 or more. * 14 day deposit on sums of £25,000 or more.

Lorna Bourke

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Name
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T.11/81

Christmas gift for the wine investor

Here is the second edition of the book that - as its first issue last year stated - was "meant for anyone who cares at all about the taste of the wine he drinks and about how much he pays for it". With the wealth of sources available to the wine investor, the guide provides a discriminating selection. It lists 263 wine merchants, who are assessed for three types of award, based in part upon reader response in the same vein as The Good Food Guide from the same publisher.

The first award is for merchants offering particularly good value, which is not the same as selling very cheap wine. The range on offer forms the second award where the complete food for an evening and well assembled

selection, varying in origin and state of maturity, an unusually high standard of service forms the guide's third accolade. While 57 secure at least one award, only seven obtain all three: Gerard Harris, of Aston Clinton, Lay and Wheeler in Colchester, Luc Lacerre and Philip Morgan of Cardiff, Tamers of Shrewsbury, Henry Townsend of Golehill near Ayr, and the IEC Wine Society of Stevenage.

The auction houses provide a rich source for purchase (and sale) with the added advantage that they usually allow a fair range to be tasted prior to each sale. It is surprising therefore that the 26-page section on this in the first edition has been omitted.

With the changes taking



Conal Gregory

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The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch. %	Vol	Ch. %	Vol	Ch. %	Vol
115	100	ABE Hedges	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
76	39	Airbus Group	76	4.7	7.1	10.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5
52	21	Armstrong & Rhodes	52	4.3	10.0	3.6	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1
200	92	Bardet Hill	200	1	9.7	5.1	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2
104	68	Deborah Services	104	15.5	5.9	4.7	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3
126	88	Frank Horrell	126	6.4	5.2	11.0	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.5
110	39	Frederick Parker	110	1.7	2.9	25.7	25.7	25.7	25.7	25.7
110	66	George Blak	110	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
102	93	IPC	102	7.3	7.3	7.2	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9
113	59	Jackson Group	113	7.0	7.0	7.2	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9
130	103	James Burroughs	130	8.7	2.5	8.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
334	244	Robert Jenkins	334	2.0	15.1	12.6	3.8	8.3	8.3	8.3
59	50	Scrudders "A"	59	5.3	5.3	8.3	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7
224	175	Towday Limited	224	15.6	8.6	6.7	11.6	11.6	11.6	11.6
23	8	Twinkl/Oct	23	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4
90	68	Twinkl/Oct	90	15.0	20.9	20.9	20.9	20.9	20.9	20.9
56	33	Unibank Holdings	56	3.0	9.1	5.9	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
103	81	Walter Alexander	103	2.0	6.9	7.8	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1
263	181	W. S. Yates	263	12.1	6.1	4.1	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3

EDITED BY LORNA BOURKE

FINANCIAL NEWS



Among the groups of workers who have benefited from the cash-to-cheque wages scheme are Greater London Council park keepers.

Bonus for a cashless wage

London park keepers who received a £150 bonus each for agreeing to a wage payment by Giro cheque instead of cash each week are far from being the only workers bribed into changing their financial habits. Employers up and down the land are trying to switch their wages systems from a weekly cash basis to a monthly cheque or bank transfer. And they believe that paying out a bonus, an interest free loan, better staff benefits or even a lottery for a car or holiday is a small price to pay for persuading the British worker to give up the comforting feel of a fistful of fivers each Friday.

The right of manual workers to be paid in cash is enshrined in the Truck Acts passed in the nineteenth century to stop unscrupulous employers paying their down-trodden labour in kind rather than cash.

Employers can only offer anything other than hard cash on the written consent of the worker. The Truck Acts must rank as one of our greatest anachronisms — one can hardly imagine the British Leyland management attempting to fob off its workforce with payment in Mini Metros at the end of the month.

But tradition dies hard — around half British workers

receive cash wages. On the Continent the figure varies between 5 and 20 per cent. In France the law works in reverse. Employees earning more than a low minimum figure must accept payment by cheque or bank transfer. Not unrelated is the fact that Britain has a much smaller proportion of bank account holders than any of its European neighbours. The clearing banks and National Giro have not been slow to spot the possibilities. This year they have been running a student campaign to speed the move to cashless pay.

The employers need little persuasion, according to Terry McCarthy, the high street banks project executive. "The security problems of handling cash wages are alarming. It is a very expensive money and dispensing it. Companies can make substantial savings by changing their system."

"It is quite reasonable to offer workers an incentive to change. The £150 paid to the GLC workers seems on the high side, but given the cost of cash handling over the years it might be quite a realistic figure."

According to the high street banks' own research the cost to the employer of processing cash wages is now around £30 per employee a

year. According to the GLC its own saving will be just a little less. The £150 represents several years' benefit.

Legally employers cannot force a change on their workers, and despite all the arguments and inducements many are suspicious. Philip Bryant at National Giro (which suggested to the Wilson Committee that the Truck Acts be amended) says: "There seems to be a heavily entrenched feeling about the use of cash in this country. People like it. Employers offer all sorts of deals to persuade them to change."

There may be a lump sum payment usually between £25 and £75, reflecting the direct saving to the employer. Since a changeover from weekly cash to monthly cheque in arrears involves workers in a cash flow crisis there is often the offer of an interest free loan equivalent to three or four weeks' money repayable over a few months or years.

For employees earning less than £8,500 a year the benefit is not taxable. The bank may, for its part, provide free banking for a period plus cheque guarantee cards, credit cards and other services automatically.

Some companies offer improved benefits in addition to cash or loan incentives. Debenhams, one of the few retail chains to achieve 100 per cent non cash payment of wages increased its in-store staff discount from 15 to 20 per cent to obtain agreement. Marconi offered workers at its Gateshead factory staff status, with increased job security and better holidays.

Employers often conduct these deals through the unions. Once accepted non cash payment becomes a condition of employment, although a workers' agreement to payment by means other than cash can, apparently, still be withdrawn under the Truck Acts at a month's notice.

But no-one, it appears, has been so churlish as to do it. Perhaps they haven't had the time to get across with the banking system and its lengthening queues.

One newspaper survey conducted on the subject of cash wages showed that around a third of readers who responded objected to going over to non cash wages because of inconvenient banking hours and the lunch hour jams.

Margaret Drummond

Investor's week

Shares continue to hold their ground

The moving finger writes, and having writ moves on. So, the FT 30-share index rose this week from 520.2 to 533.4 but it is the wagging finger of fate that I fear.

Seppies reason thus: in terms of pounds we British have celebrated the fall in United States interest rates more than anyone else. Since Black Monday at the end of September London shares have risen by around 17 per cent, and the nearest, my friends at brokers Hoare, Govett tell me, to this is bourse in Hongkong with a gain of 15.4 per cent.

Wall Street, possibly the intended beneficiary of the Federal Reserve's tiny steps to cheaper money, has fallen. Everybody may be out of step save our London — may be.

If interest rates are the key to London, a further half a per cent cut in bank base rates is probably in stock market prices already; a full one point cut would, equally probably, give shares another kilip at what is seasonally a merry time for markets.

But already City eyes are looking to next year when interest rates could start rising as activity quickens, and the balance of payments yawns into deficit. The again, Mrs Shirley Williams' victory at Crosby may (for the present) mean more ammunition for Government "wets" in their drive for

reflation (and still higher share prices).

But next year a stock market ringing the bells for an equity boom may start wringing its hands at the spectre of a Tory defeat at the next polls.

All this is still in the future.

For the present we can join with brokers Phillips & Drew in rejoicing at the way company profits in the third quarter of this year (according to their still incomplete sample), are 50 per cent up on a year earlier, and we saw this week how big names like Courtaulds, BPE, Metal Box and Avon after streamlining have been turning in profit increases of between 40 per cent and 100 per cent well before the economy began to move.

What I really like about today's markets is the way long-dated gilt-edged yields have rattled down in recent weeks from well over 15 per cent to 14 1/4 per cent. This has narrowed the yield gap between these long-dated stocks and shares from a record 9 1/2 per cent to a more acceptable 8 per cent.

The recent rise in shares has, I know, been based on rather thin business but I doubt whether the Chancelor's medicinal dose next week will knock shares for six.

Peter Wainwright

A present from Yorkshire

Grandparents stuck for a Christmas present for a child often resort to a fiver pushed between the folds of a card.

Yorkshire Bank has produced a Christmas package which solves this problem and should delight any savings conscious 10-year-old. A person who opens a savings account with a minimum of £2 receives a special Christmas pack containing a savings box and a savings account passbook in the name of the child with the amount of the gift entered.

The pack can be obtained from any Yorkshire Bank branch, and the bank's head office will be happy to give details of nearest branches or how to open an account by post.

Your money markets best buys

Banks
Current account — no interest paid. Deposit accounts — Lloyds, Nat West, Midland & Barclays, 13 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawal. For sums of £10,000 or more rate fixed for the term. Fixed-term deposits — 1 month, 14 1/4 per cent; 3 months, 14 1/2 per cent; 6 months, 14 3/4 per cent; 12 months, 15 per cent.

Money Funds
Since 7-day fund, 15.06 per cent; UDT Average Rate Deposit Fund, 15 1/2 per cent; Yorkshire 7-day fund, 15 per cent; Since dollar fund, 11.18 per cent; interest paid without deduction of tax. Further details from Sims (01-328 5533) Lyndall (0272-73241).

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts — interest 5 per cent. First £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Account — 14.5 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £20,000.

National Savings Index-Linked Certificates
Maximum investment, £5,000, return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail prices index, 4 per cent held full five years to maturity. Cash value of £100 certificates purchased in December 1976, £109.75 including 4 per cent bonus.

National Savings Certificates
23rd Issue.
Return totally free of all taxes, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five year term of 10.5 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

Building Societies
Ordinary share accounts — 8.75 per cent. Tax shares 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 per cent and 2 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes — 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates.

Finance for Industry
Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax. For sums of £10,000 or more: 3 years, 13 1/2 per cent; 4 years, 13 3/4 per cent; 5 years, 14 per cent; 6 years, 14 1/4 per cent; 7 years, 14 1/2 per cent; 8 years, 14 3/4 per cent; 9 years, 15 per cent; 10 years, 15 1/4 per cent. Further information from SFI, 51 Watlington Road, London SE1 (01-328 7822).

Finance House Deposits (UDT)
Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deduction of tax. For sums of £10,000 or more: 1 month, 14 1/4 per cent; 3 months, 14 1/2 per cent; 6 months, 14 3/4 per cent; 12 months, 15 per cent.

Foreign Currency Deposits*
Interest paid without deduction of tax.

Call 7-days notice

	US dollar	9 1/4 p.c.	9 1/4 p.c.
Yes	3 1/2 p.c. <td>3 1/2 p.c. <td>3 1/2 p.c. </td></td>	3 1/2 p.c. <td>3 1/2 p.c. </td>	3 1/2 p.c.
2. Mark	7 1/4 p.c. <td>7 1/4 p.c. <td>7 1/4 p.c. </td></td>	7 1/4 p.c. <td>7 1/4 p.c. </td>	7 1/4 p.c.
Swiss Franc	11 1/4 p.c. <td>11 1/4 p.c. <td>11 1/4 p.c. </td></td>	11 1/4 p.c. <td>11 1/4 p.c. </td>	11 1/4 p.c.
Other	11 1/4 p.c. <td>11 1/4 p.c. <td>11 1/4 p.c. </td></td>	11 1/4 p.c. <td>11 1/4 p.c. </td>	11 1/4 p.c.

*Rates quoted by Midland Bank — other banks may differ.

BCA goes into waste disposal for £3m

By Margaret Pagano
The British Car Auction Group has entered the service cleaning industry with the purchase for £3m of Maybank Enterprises, a private waste disposal group.

The deal is being made through BCA's 69 per cent-owned subsidiary, Atwood Garages, whose shares were suspended yesterday morning at the company's request at 9.20p. Only last month, when Mr David Wickins, BCA's chairman, announced that the group was trying to make the acquisition, Maybank described the news as premature.

Last night Mr Wickins explained that it had taken some time to reach agreement with the 50 family members and trusts that controlled Maybank, but he was very pleased that it had finally come off.

Maybank has extensive gravel reserves, said to be valued at £80m, as well as a cavity wall insulation business in Derbyshire, a paper conversion subsidiary and a house construction company in Sussex.

Maybank, which employs 300 people, last year made pretax profits of £109,000.

Rediffusion result clips shares

By Our Financial Staff
television developments, will provide continuing growth over the next few years. The half-year results showed pretax profits rising to £7.5m compared with £6.9m last time, but the market, expecting better figures, marked the group's shares down 14p to 167p. Shareholders get an unchanged dividend of 1.78p gross.

By the mid-80s the number of video recorders, either rented or bought, should equal the number of televisions now watched in homes throughout the country. This forecast came yesterday from Mr Richard Overend, financial controller of Rediffusion, one of the largest television rental operators in the country.

He said this, and other television developments, will provide continuing growth over the next few years. The half-year results showed pretax profits rising to £7.5m compared with £6.9m last time, but the market, expecting better figures, marked the group's shares down 14p to 167p. Shareholders get an unchanged dividend of 1.78p gross.

Brengreen lifts dividend as profits jump 41pc

By Our Financial Staff
Brengreen Holdings, refuse collector to Southend Council, has reported a sharp jump in profits and sales at the half-way stage and the purchase of a clutch of industrial cleaning companies with the proceeds of its rights issue earlier this year. Pretax profits for the six months to October 10 rose by 41 per cent to £425,000. Sales were 40 per cent higher at £4.4m. The half-time dividend is being raised to 0.57p, an increase of a third, adjusted for their rights issue.

Mr David Evans, the chairman, says that the contract but painting and decorating to expand and he expects five

Hayters coming to USM

By Paul Maitland
Hayters, the Bishop's Stortford manufacturers of powered mowers and welders, is coming to the Unlisted Securities Market by way of a placement of 44,980 shares at £1.50 each.

At the placing price, the company is capitalised at £67.5m. The shares placed represent 17.3 per cent of Hayters' capital and have come from existing shareholders excluding directors. Directors and their families directly or indirectly control 53 per cent of the company.

Hayters started in 1946 as an agricultural builder. Its founder, Mr Douglas Hayter, switched to manufacturing grass cutters after developing his first machine, reputedly out of an old motor bike engine and a dustbin lid.

Total sales in 1980 were £5.56m and pretax profits £687,000. Mr William Barracough, the managing director, estimates that pretax profits this year will be £626,000, after writing off £96,000 for losses resulting from an export order to Iran.

The company says it will declare a final dividend of 15p gross. On the basis of this, the yield would be 10 per cent and the P/E ratio 11.7.

Dealings are expected to start on December 4.

Small setback at Capital & Counties

By Drew Johnston
A flood of new commercial and industrial property coming on to the market over the last six months has made the letting market difficult, according to Mr Keith Wallis, chairman of Capital & Counties property company.

Despite a rise in interest charges from £410,000 to £1.2m for the six months to September 29 the company has recorded a pretax revenue profit figure of only marginally down, at £3,04m from £3.3m, last time. But dividend of 1.71p gross per share, an increase on last year's interim of 1.42p per ordinary share.

Part of this increase is accounted for by a rise in income from property trading, from £486,000 to £628,000. Capital profit after the reduced tax charge, down from £1,035m to £464,000, is up on last year at £1,572m from £816,000.

The company intends to open market valuation on March 25, 1981.

£1.2m issue by Concord Rotaflex

Concord Rotaflex is raising £1.2m by an issue of preference shares and is forecasting a return to profits for this year. It plans to issue £500,000 of convertible preference shares at 9 1/4 per cent and £700,000 of redeemable preference shares at 14 1/4 per cent to Equity Capital for industry in return for £1.2m cash. The proceeds will be used to cut short-term indebtedness and provide for expansion.

Concord's balance sheet has been substantially strengthened and further improvement is expected. Pretax profits for 1981 are expected to be at least £1m, compared with 1980's £1.2m loss. A total dividend of 2.85p gross is predicted for this year, against just 0.142p gross for 1980.

Nimslo USM quote

The London Stock Exchange has granted permission for dealings in the capital of Nimslo International in the Unlisted Securities Market. Therefore, the offer for the capital of Nimslo European Holdings, the proposals relating to the NEM loan stocks and the acceptance of applications for the issue of 7.5m Nimslo shares are now wholly unconditional.

Leopold Joseph

Leopold Joseph Holdings, the merchant banking group, reports that pretax profits for the half-year to September 30 were slightly down on the corresponding period of the previous year. This is partly because of the fall in interest rates in the last quarter. Holding the interim payment at 2.67p gross, the board reports that the volume of business undertaken continues to expand.

Costs have been well contained and the board looks forward to another successful year.

Howard Tenens

Although turnover of Howard Tenens Services dropped from £10.6m to £9.3m in the six months to September 30, pretax profits doubled to £308,000. Redundancy and reorganization costs took £173,000 against £117,000.

Mr E. C. Morris, chairman, says he expects the second half to yield a group attributable profit not less than that achieved in the first half, assuming that there are no significant industrial problems within the motor industry, which still remains the group's largest customer.

Bowthorpe

Bowthorpe Holdings, the Sussex-based electrical and electronic components group, has acquired 85 per cent of Devlin Electronics of Basingstoke. Devlin makes electronic switch keyboards, key panels and has an expanding distribution division. The purchase price of £743,750 comprises £150,000 cash and the allotment of fully-paid ordinary 10p shares in the capital of Bowthorpe.

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PROFIT AND DIVIDEND BREAK NEW RECORDS				
■ Profits before tax rose to a new record. Earnings per stock unit increased to 40.64p. Total dividends for the year amount to 12.5p per stock unit compared with 11.62p last year and are covered over three times over on a historical cost basis.				
■ The financial strength of the Group is demonstrated in the balance sheet where the provision for unearned profit, etc amounts to £142 million and the 1979 property valuation shows a surplus of £250 million with a further 25 per cent increase in the value of the UK properties indicated by the March 1981 informal valuation. Stockholders' funds exceed £1 billion.				
■ The unaudited profits before tax for the first five months of the current year are ahead of those for the same period last year.				
■ We believe that the spread of our activities both in the UK and overseas, the strength of operational management, strong liquidity and the large property content in our portfolio, will enable us to continue to give a good account of ourselves.				
Comparative figures to 31st March	1979	1980	1981	
Turnover (including VAT)	1,436,577	1,743,015	1,798,264	
Group profit before taxation	155,365	172,752	179,532	
Taxation (including deferred tax)	53,941	76,635	78,406	
Cash flow	83,477	82,324	102,235	
Net current assets	438,615	486,330	529,201	
Ordinary Stockholders' funds	554,798	615,978	680,325*	

*Excluding surplus on valuations of properties and also provisions for unearned profit, etc.

MARKET REPORTS

Stock-markets

Equities shake off economic gloom

The market celebrated the SDP Liberal alliance's election win at Crosby with further gains after a rather cautious start.

The equity market was also able to discount the latest gloomy report on the economy and the Chancellor's mini-budget due next week, enabling the FT index to end the week on a high note, rising 7.3 to 533.4—the same as the rise on the account so far.

Stock shortages were responsible for many of the gains with interest centred on possible bids.

With no lead from Wall Street available, after the Thanksgiving Day break, gilts spent a quiet day with rises of up to 1/4% recorded in quiet trade.

In blue chips, ICI was much sought after on the appointment of Mr. John Harvey-Jones as the next chairman. But according to brokers Panmure Gordon, ICI's latest substantial offer to buy off Santa Barbara, California, is another cause for excitement and may be worth 3p a share. The price closed 5p higher at 294p.

There was also active turnover in Courtalds after comment on the half-year figures. Jobbers were forced

to make a price and size in anything up to 250,000 shares with the price ending 5p up at 74p. Brokers Rowe and Pitman's comments about International Group continued to support the price, which closed 3p up at 69p.

Rowe & Pitman was also involved in placing 3.675m

A line of 250,000 shares in Glaxo was over-hanging the market yesterday after being offered at 432p. This was enough to clip its earlier gains, leaving the price unchanged at 430p.

Shares in Dalgety with various institutions at 280p in order to pay for the group's acquisition of the Canadian

firm Peace Wood Products from British Gypsum for £11.5m. Dalgety fell 5p to 291p.

Brokers' circulars were responsible for a flurry of activity in both the timber and industrial cleaning sectors, both of which have seen little activity lately.

International Timber rose 4p to 83p, Montague L. Meyer 4p to 66p, Phoenix Timber 10p to 105p, Scotch Lloy 10p to 28p and Initial Services 15p to 23p.

Upsets by profits below expectations. Rediffusion slipped 14p to 167p with Carron losing 1p at 25p after passing the dividend.

Shares of United Engineering were suspended at 208p until it received shareholders' consent of its pro-

posed acquisition of MCL Group of Companies and the subsequent listing of the new shares. Meanwhile, Ductile Steels is to ask the Stock Exchange for a relisting of its shares on Monday after the breakdown in talks with a mystery bidder.

Equity turnover on November 27 was £149.218m (13.75p bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Phoenix Timber, Initial Services, BAT Ind, Johnson Group and Pilkington Bros.

Traded options: Contracts amounted to 3,038 of which BP accounted for 559 and Courtalds 518.

Traditional options had calls in Rothmans, on 74p, BHS on 14p, Royal Bank of Scotland on 22p and Provident Financial on 12p.

Latest results

Company	Profit	Dividend	Payable	Year's
Capital & Counties (I)	5,064,444	3,043,333	1.2(1)	4/1
Davies Surgical (F)	7,398,639	1,114,341	0.4(0)	—
Albert Fisher (F)	5,174,659	1,314,141	0.5(0)	25/1
Faber Inc (I)	12,419,431	2,214,341	0.8(0)	—
Eastern Product (I)	10,379,829	2,214,341	0.8(0)	—
Howard Tennant (I)	9,250,611	1,250,638	0.5(0)	2/1
North Moss (F)	8,077,491	1,250,638	0.5(0)	—
Rediffusion (I)	120,107,717	7,516,511	3.0(0)	8/1
Wormdale, Walker (I)	1,011,451	0.35(0.33)	—	—
Tomkinson Carpets (F)	12,911,113	14,850,511	3(2)	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on price per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net, a loss.

Commodities

COPPER was steady. 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Stock Exchange Prices Firm tone

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 25; Dealings End, Dec 4; Commencement Day, Dec 7; Settlement Day, Dec 14
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1980/81 High Low Company Price Chgs % P/E				1980/81 High Low Company Price Chgs % P/E				1980/81 High Low Company Price Chgs % P/E				1980/81 High Low Company Price Chgs % P/E				1980/81 High Low Company Price Chgs % P/E			
BRITISH FUNDS				COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL				T-Z				SHIPPING				MINES			
SHORTS				A-B				O-S				FINANCIAL TRUSTS				OIL			
LONGS				C-M				INSURANCE				INVESTMENT TRUSTS				PROPERTY			
COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN				N-P				Sterling: Spot and Forward				RUBBER				TEA			
LOCAL AUTHORITIES				Q-R				Money Market				MISCELLANEOUS				RECENT ISSUES			
DOLLAR STOCKS				S-T				Other Markets				Dollar Spot Rates				Euro-Deposits			
BANKS AND DISCOUNTS				U-V				Gold				Euro-Deposits				Euro-Deposits			
BREWERS AND DISTILLERS				W-X				Euro-Deposits				Euro-Deposits				Euro-Deposits			
BANKS AND DISCOUNTS				Y-Z				Euro-Deposits				Euro-Deposits				Euro-Deposits			
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Edited by Peter Davalle

ay's Open H

the Nanny's Evening Show, 1.00 pm
 the News Highlights, 1.30 Sport on 2
 2.00 Music, Football, Racing,
 2.30 Jockey, 3.00 Country Style, 7.00 Jazz
 7.30 7.30 Big Ben Special, 8.00
 Saturday Night is Gale Night, 1.00
 and Gale celebrates the reopening
 the Spa Grand Hall, Scarborough.
 1.00 Nording 81, 1.00 a gala concert
 featuring Vince Hill and Ackle Blk.
 1.10 Peter Marshall's Late Show.
 2.00-5.00 are You and the Night and
 the Music ↑

Radio 1

1.00 As Radio 2, 7.00 Playground,
 10.00 Tony Blackburn, 10.00 Peter
 Dinkell, 12.00 Why Top, 12.00 Achman
 1.00 1.00 a King in New York, 1.
 1.00 Paul Gambaccini, 4.00 Walters

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GRAMPIAN
London except: Start: 9.10 am Jon
9.35 Singray 10.00-10.30
perboard with Chris Kelly. 11.15
Reflections 11.20 Hammer House
Joror: Thirteenth Reunion. When a

GRANADA
 London except: Starts 9.35 am Joe
 10.00-10.30 Clapperboard with
 s Kelly, 10.30 pm Supersizer
 Michael Caino including clips
 some of his films, 11.00 Film:
 cdfall (Michael Caine, Nanette
 Armstrong)
 A Greater good? he has
 self committed to a sanatorium to
 the confidence of a multi-na-
 tional patient, 1.10 am
 redown.

SCOTTISH
 London except: Starts 9.10 am
 Underbirds, 10.00-10.30
 Astronauts with Chris Kelly, 10.35
 s Hollywood, *11.35 Late Call,
 10 Streets of San Francisco, 12.35

Radio 1
 5 am Tony Blackburn, 10.00 Noel
 onds, 1.00 pm Jimmy Savile, 3.00
 01 816 with Adrian Lowe: Ring 01-
 4411, 5.00 Top 40, 7.00 Alexis
 er, 8.00 Sounds of Jazz, 9.00
 8.
 Radios 1 and 2: 5.00 am With
 o 2, 5.00 pm With Radio 1, 10.00-
 am With Radio 2.

World Service
 World Service can be received in
 m, Europe on medium wave 948 MHz

7.20 Classical Record Review, 7.45
to 8.00 World News, 8.00
Review of the British
9.15 People and Places, 9.45 Sports
10.15 The World at Night, 11.00
British, 11.15 Letter from America
Play of the Week, 12.30 pop Review
1.00 News, 1.15 Good Books, 1.30 Short
1.45 The Sandwich Request Show
2.00 News, 2.15 Concert Hall, 4.00
World News, 4.15 From our own
correspondents, 4.30 News, 5.00
World News, 5.00 World News, 5.00
News, 5.15 Letterland, 5.15 The
World, 10.00 World News, 10.45
in Action, 10.45 Reflections, 10.45
World News, 11.00
World News, 11.00 Africa
A Touch of Genius, 12.00 World
12.00 News about Britain, 12.15
World News, 12.30 News, 12.30
The Discovery of Penicillin, 1.45 Short
2.00 World News, 2.00 Review of the
Week, 2.15 News, 2.15 News, 2.15
World News, 2.00 World News, 3.00 News

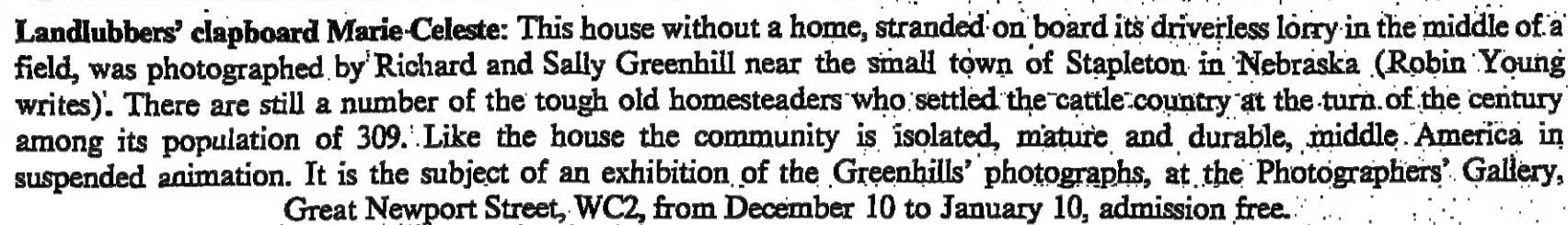
GRAMPIAN

SOUTHERN

London except: 9.05am Talking
9.30-10.00 No Need to Shout.
11.00 Stingray. 1.00 pm Chips.
1.30am Progress. 2.30-3.00
am. 5.30 News. 5.55-6.30
Fiction. 11.30 The Monte Carlo
with Juliet Prosser and Sacha
12.30 am Weather followed by
ing Aloud and Closedown.

ANGLIA

London except: Starts 9.30 am
Painting with Nancy. 11.30-
No News. 12.30-1.00 pm The
Girl. 1.30 Weather. 1.35
ay Diary. 2.05 Laurel and
? Susan Dredges. 2.20-3.30
of the Week. 5.30 How's Your
? 6.10-6.30 Portrait of a Village:
F. Norfolk. 11.30 Going Out.
Fiction. 12.30am Farnoff.



Looking to nature for clues of winter's weather

The daily forecasts published by the Meteorological Office have, despite public scepticism, made steady progress. The advent of large computers, plus satellite ob-

WALLACE HEATON

177 New Bond St. W.L.